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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 30, 1876. NO. 175.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he is a subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all a rrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The Courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

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FIRST EDITION.

PENNSYLVANIA.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

A Splendid Day's Work.

A PLATFORM OF SOUND TIMBER.

List of Presidential Electors.

Delegates to National Convention.

THE NEW STATE COMMITTEE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 29, 1876.

The Republican State Convention met at noon to-day, and was called to order by Col. Henry M. Hoyt, Chairman of the State Committee. Maj. A. Wilson Norris, of the same committee, read the list of delegates.

Mr. W. H. Kountz, of Somerset, was chosen temporary Chairman. On taking the chair, he spoke at some length, referring to the proud position Pennsylvania has held in the past in the politics of the country. The speaker claimed for Pennsylvania the prestige of naming the next President. The Democratic party, which by mischance, slipped into power two years ago, was arraigned for its conduct in Congress, and denounced as the executors of the last will and testament of the dead rebellion. The past history of the Republican party was then recounted at length, and its aim for the future indicated, and the speaker closed as follows: "With such aims and such purposes, and with our honored Governor, John F. Hartranft, who has proven himself a brave soldier, a true and tried statesman, a man of unsullied and spotless reputation, as our standard bearer, there can be no doubt that victory will again perch upon the banner of the Republican party."

Committees on Resolutions and Contested Seats, consisting of one member from each Congressional district, were then appointed.

On motion of Mr. Elliott, a committee of nine, to report delegates and alternates to the National Convention, was appointed, consisting of the following: Rutan, of Beaver; Gartside, of Delaware; Elliott, of Philadelphia; Scull, of Somerset; Shenk, of Lancaster; Reeder, of Northampton; Patterson, of Dauphin; Magee, of Allegheny; Smiley, of Venango.

G. T. Oliver, of Pittsburgh, and Josiah Speer, of Allegheny, were named on the Committee on Resolutions. W. C. Cook, Forty-second; J. A. McDevitt, Forty-third; C. B. Seely, Forty-fourth; and C. J. Fetterman, Forty-fifth districts, were appointed on permanent organization.

After the appointment of committees, the Convention took a recess until half-past two.

On reassembling, Hon. Edward McPherson, of Adams county, was elected President, with Vice Presidents and Secretaries.

Hon. B. B. Strang, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, made the following report, which was adopted with great enthusiasm:

Resolved, That we hereby reaffirm the platform adopted by the Republican State Convention at Lancaster in 1875, and, in view of recent events at Washington, we emphatically endorse that part of it which demands "honest men in office—men with brains enough to know dishonesty when they see it, and courage enough to dash it from them, no matter by what party name it is committed." It is the Republican party is committed by its origin, its traditions, its history and its duties to an intrepid and honest administration of public affairs, and wherever—in National, State or municipal life—maladministration has existed, or does exist, we demand that it be exposed and corrected, and the guilty punished; and to this end we pledge the full measure of our support as citizens and as voters.

Resolved, That we look to the Cincinnati Convention to give us candidates for President and Vice President who are above suspicion, and in whose personal integrity the nation can most surely trust, and that we also look to our friends throughout the State to make sure that, in presenting candidates for Congress and the Legislature, they select those only who are known to be honest, capable and faithful to the Constitution.

Resolved, That the Republicans of Pennsylvania, having nothing in their past history which they wish to blot out, or to apologize for, or would have the nation forget, arraign the Democratic leaders in Congress and their abettors, for the preference shown to the deadly principles, and for the subsequency shown to the defiant leaders of the late Confederacy, now dominating them; for their removal from office of Union soldiers and appointment of Confederate soldiers; for the repeated indications of a purpose, only prevented by fear, to open the Treasury of the nation to alarming and unjust pecuniary demands from the insurrectionary States; for their persistent efforts to force amnesty upon men too proud or unrepentant to ask it, or too guilty to deserve it; and for the combined recklessness and cowardice of their course on financial questions—recklessness which unceasingly holds out threat to overthrow existing laws, and a cowardice or incapacity to originate a substitute for them—all which expose the Democratic party as without a national instinct, or an unselfish impulse, or an affirmative policy, and as unfit to be trusted by the country which, when last under their control, they sadly hurried into the Vortex of Civil War.

Resolved, That recent events in the late slave States clearly expose a purpose on the part of the Democratic party to seize them and wield them, as a unit, in the next Presidential election; that to this end the most bloody conspiracies have been made to coerce voters, and base legislative conspiracies are at his moment in operation in order that an unprincipled and fraudulent majority may be secured by choice or purchase in their legislatures; and as against these outrages we take appeal to the people of the nation.

Resolved, That the common school demands that our public schools shall not only be free to all, but shall be preserved from all special or partial control. All attempts to divide the school fund, for any purpose whatever, or to divert any portion of it into sectarian channels under popular control, is to be frowned upon and resisted with unyielding firmness. The recent defeat in the Democratic Legislature of Maryland of a Constitutional amendment to secure common schools from the grasp of that State against division, reveals at once a grave danger and its source, and with other like facts makes plain the duty of Congress to submit such an amendment to the Constitution of the United States as, when adopted, will effectually defend the Common School system from all enemies open or covert.

Resolved, That the attempt of the Democratic House of Representatives at Washington, in the face of the depressed condition of American industry, to inflict upon the nation a free trade tariff, is an insult to the intelligence of the people and an evidence of the inability of the Democratic party to meet the present wants of the country. The remedy for our suffering industries is a higher, not a lower, tariff.

Resolved, That the neglect of the public business of the State by the present majority in the lower branch of the Legislature, and the plainly apparent purpose of that majority to edicate, by closing the session with the subject of thereby increasing their pay, is worthy of the strongest censure, and must, if raised in a weaken the high indignation of an aggraged people.

Resolved, That the uniform policy of the Republican party of Pennsylvania, in keeping wn the burdens of taxation while steadily lessening the public debt, should be persistently maintained. When the debt is wiped out, public expenditures should be confined to strictly economical limits consistent with a proper for her public schools, and the efficiency of her reformatory and penal institutions.

Resolved, That the recommendation by Governor Hartranft a uniform system of municipal government throughout the State, and of the adoption of effective measures to prevent further increase of municipal indebtedness, worthy of all commendation, and should be put into practical operation at as early a day possible.

Hon. J. S. Rutan Chairman of the committee appointed to select suitable persons for Presidential electors and delegates to the National Republican Convention, then made their report, which was adopted, as follows:

The following gentlemen were selected electors: Electors at large: Benjamin Brewster, Philadelphia; John W. Ellanis, Allegheny. Electors: 1, John Welsh, Philadelphia; 2, Henry Disston, Philadelphia; 3, Christian Hoffman, Philadelphia; 4, Charles Thompson Jones, Philadelphia; 5, Edwin A. Fitler, Philadelphia; 6, Dr. Benjamin Dawson; 7, J. W. Shinard, Chester; 8, Jacob Knabb, Berks; 9, John Wartei, Lancaster; 10, Dr. Joseph Thomas, Jacksville; 11, Daniel Parfice, Luzerne; 12, Lewis Ache, Luzerne; 13, Edwards Silliman, Schuylkill; 14, William Calder, Dauphin; 15, Miles L. Cary, Wayne; 16, S. W. Starkweather; Lycoming; 17, Daniel Morrell, Cambria; 18, Jeremiah Hamilton; 19, William Hay, York; 20, William Cameron, Union; 21, J. B. Donnelly, Cumberland; 22, Daniel O'Neill, Pittsburgh; 23, W. J. Neeb, Allegheny; 24, Andrew B. Berger, Fayette; 25, Samuel M. Jackson, Armstrong; 26, James Westerman, Mercer; 27, W. W. Wilson, Warren.

List of Delegates to Cincinnati.

The following were elected District Delegates to the Cincinnati Convention:

Delegates at Large—D. Cameron, W. E. Smith, H. M. Hoyt, H. W. Mackey.

Delegates—1, A. H. Simpson; 2, William J. Cook; 3, John L. Hill, Morton McMichael; 3, F. Fairman, M. H. Stanton; 4, William B. Mann, W. H. Kemble; 5, A. M. Byrnan, James Nourse, Academa; Lancaster, John A. Hiestand, Lancaster; John R. Bricker, Lititz; Lawrence, E. S. Durbin, New Castle; Lebanan, no report; Lehigh, Robert Iredell, Allentown; Lycoming, Henry Brown, Williamsport; Luzerne, Edward H. Chase, Wilkesbarre, John G. Noakes, Scranton; McKean, W. J. Colegrove, Coldgrove; Mercer, J. C. Gilmore, Greenville; Mifflin, E. C. Hamilton, Lewistown; Monroe, Theodore Schenck, Stroudsburg; Montgomery, Major J. G. McQuad, Norristown; Daniel O. Hitner, Conshohocken; Montour, Dr. Bindley, Danville; Northampton, N. J. Wenner, Bethlehem; Northumberland, W. H. Dewart, Shamokin; Perry, Jacob Mc-Ilhenny, New Bloomfield; Piko, no report; Potter, D. C. Larrabee, Coudersport; Schuylkill, Edward Dimmick, Schuylkill Haven; M. L'Velle, Ashland; Snyder, Samuel A. Wetzel, Beavertown; Somerset, Major E. M. Shrock, Somerset; Susquehanna, Capt. John C. Morris, Friendsville; Sullivan, E. V. Ingham, Laporte; Tioga, J. B. Potter, Wellsboro; Union, Major W. Schock, Mifflinburg; Venango, Charles W. Mackey; Warren, Wilson Conrad; Washington, John C. McNary, Canonsburg; Wayne, Henry M. Seely, Honesdale; Westmoreland, Jas. A. Hunter, Greensburg; Wyoming, Cyrus D. Camp, Tunkhannock; York, H. W. McCall, York.

Colonel Henry M. Hoyt was re-elected Chairman of the State Committee.

The Convention then adjourned, after a session marked by entire harmony and the utmost good feeling.

OHIO.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

A Sound Financial Platform.

Hayes Presented for President.

COLUMBUS, March 29.—The Republican State Convention assembled at the Opera House this morning, a full delegation being present from all the districts of the State, and many visitors from each. General John C. Lee, of Toledo, was chosen Temporary President, and made a short speech, warmly urging united action to secure the nomination of Governor Hayes for President. After appointing committees, the convention took a recess for dinner.

The Convention reassembled at half-past one. Hon. Alphonso Hart, of Cuyahoga, was chosen Permanent President; Benjamin Wade, of Ashtabula, Edward F. Noyes, of Hamilton, W. H. Upson, of Summit, and J. W. Keefer, of Clark, were elected as delegates at large to the National Convention, with Samuel Craighead, of Dayton, Clark Wagoner, of Seneca, C. H. Grosvenor, of Athens, and Lewis Weitzel, of Hamilton, as alternates. A. F. Perry, of Cincinnati, and E. H. Bohm, of Cuyahoga, were chosen for Presidential electors.

The following State ticket was also nominated: Secretary of State, Milton M. Barnes, of Guernsey; Supreme Judge, W. W. Boyle, of Logan; Member of Board of Public Works, James C. Evans, of Delaware.

The following platform was unanimously adopted, with three cheers:

First. The Republicans of Ohio renew their allegiance to the Republican party of the United States, was resolutions and principles of free government as declared and defended by the grand men of 1776, and reaffirmed by the people of our time by the sacrifices of war and the blessings of an assured Union of the States based upon universal liberty.

Second. The citizens of the several States of the Union are also citizens of the nation, and are equal under the Constitution and law in all rights of citizenship, and are entitled to the same and equal protection in all rights.

Third. We favor an honest and economical administration of the Government, and favor retrenchment and reform in the public service; personal integrity and fidelity should be required of all officials, and when found to be dishonest and corrupt, they should be prosecuted and punished; and we cordially commend the vigorous prosecution by the present leaders by the present National Administration.

Fourth. The national credit and honor must be sacredly maintained.

Fifth. We favor such as the true standard of values, and the only steady and safe basis for a circulating medium, and declare that the policy of finance should be steadily pursued which, without unnecessary injury to business or trade, will ultimately equalize the value of the coin and paper dollar.

Sixth. We favor a tariff for revenue, with incidental protection to American industry.

Seventh. We stand by our system of free common schools, supported by general taxation. There must be no division of the school fund, and no sectarian interference with the schools.

Eighth. To the soldiers and sailors who fought for the Union, the nation owes a debt of gratitude, and they and the widows and orphans of those who have fallen are justly entitled to liberal bounties and pensions.

Ninth. We warmly indorse the action due to President Grant for his faithful adherence to republican principles, and we tender to him the gratitude of the country for the distinguished service he has rendered as a soldier and civilian.

Tenth. The Republican party of Ohio having full confidence in the honesty, ability and patriotism of Rutherford B. Hayes, cordially presents him to the National Republican Convention for the nomination for President of the United States, and our State delegates to that convention are instructed and district delegates are requested to use their efforts to secure his nomination.

After three cheers for Hayes, next President, and three cheers for ex-Governor Noyes and others, the Convention adjourned.

The State Central Committee organized by electing W. C. Cooper, of Knox, Chairman. The following Executive Committee were appointed: Lorin Wood, Chairman; J. C. Donaldson, Secretary; George K. Nash, Treasurer, John Little, Greene, and William Leonard, of Cuyahoga.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, March 29, 1876.

THE CHRISTIAN CONVENTION.

The Christian Convention of ministers and laymen opened at the Hippodrome this evening. The building was nearly filled. After religious exercises, Moody announced the first subject for discussion, "Evangelistic Services," and explained there were three ways of conducting God's work in the Church—reclaiming the lost by the word; second, worshipping him by going to the Lord's table, and third, teaching the Gospel. Moody, after elaborating his points, answered questions put by delegates, when Sankey sang and the convention adjourned till afternoon.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Dr. H. S. Brower, a member of the California Senate, died in Memphis yesterday, of aneurism of the heart.

The Court of Cassation of Belgium, has denied the appeal of Carl Voght, convicted of murder and sentenced to death.

Charles Doll, a German butcher of Cincinnati, committed suicide by hanging yesterday morning. He had been on a spree for a week.

Klatz & Kromer, proprietors of the Fulton foundry and machine works at Sandusky, Ohio, failed yesterday. Assets and liabilities not ascertained.

William Taylor, of Lee county, Arkansas, was yesterday awarded the premium of $1,000 offered by the Memphis Cotton Exchange for the best bale of cotton grown in that district, to be exhibited at the Centennial.

Ignatius Donnelly and two or three others assembled yesterday in Anti-Monopoly Convention at Owatonna, Minn. The assemblage was ridiculous in numbers as in character. Donnelly resolved in favor of more greenbacks and of all sorts of reformers.

The Cincinnati *Commercial's* Maysville, Ky., special says: Isaac C. Reeves has made an affidavit in regard to the Bristow hog story, in which he says that he told the story while intoxicated; that he never at any time gave to Bristow, or to any one for him, any money or property of any kind for any purpose whatever.

Captain General Jovelar recently had arrested six of the principal contractors for furnishing provisions to the Cuban army. Two have been since released. It has been reported for years that the quartermasters and contractors have been defrauding the Government. Two quartermasters ran away on Sunday last, and it is supposed they have gone to the United States.

Rising Sun Flour
will please your particular customers.

VERMONT.

THE REPUBLICANS IN COUNCIL

Specie Payments and Honest Government Demanded.

BURLINGTON, VT., March 29.—The Republican State Convention to select delegates to the Cincinnati Convention assembled this morning. Russell S. Taft was chosen President, with a list of Vice Presidents. After the transaction of routine business the Convention took a recess. Upon reassembling the following delegates at large were elected: Luke P. Poland, Colonel Wheelock G. Veazeoy, Geo. Howe and George H. Bigelow. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That in this Centennial year we again affirm our devotion to those fundamental principals upon which the Republic and the Republican party were founded. Among these are, first, the preservation of the liberties and equal rights of all citizens throughout, and an impartial and vigorous administration of the laws in every part of the country for protection and enforcement of public and private rights and the punishment of violence and crimes. Second, the pure and economical administration of every department of the Government, so as to produce the greatest benefit to the people with as little burden of taxation as may be consistent therewith. Third, the safety of the Republic depends upon the intelligence as well as virtue of its citizens, and it is essential that the public school system should be maintained in order that every child may receive such education as will fit him for useful citizenship, and we are unalterably opposed to any diversion of the public school money for any purpose whatever. Fourth, we rally to the standard of the Republican party as the only one under which we can obtain an honest and effective maintenance of Government, as well as for the defense of the Treasury against unjust demands and extravagant expenditures growing out of the rebellion. Fifth, the best interests of all citizens of every condition and pursuit require the speediest practicable return to the specie basis of values and currency, and we hail with gratification the act of a Republican Congress definitely providing for that end, and we are firmly opposed to the repeal thereof or to any step backward in the matter. Sixth, we are in favor of the untiring prosecution and punishment of public fraud and crime wherever existing; and we repeat the declaration, "let no guilty man escape." Seventh, we demand that our National candidates shall be men of tried integrity who will carry out this policy of reform, and preserve inviolate the great results of the war.

The Convention adjourned.

MISSISSIPPI.

Governor Ames Resigns After the Withdrawal of the Articles of Impeachment.

JACKSON, MISS., March 29.—In consequence of the following letter, which was read during the session of the House of Representatives, the House adopted a resolution, by a vote of 78 ayes to 0 nays, instructing the managers of the Ames impeachment case to discontinue the proceedings and withdraw the articles:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
JACKSON, March 29, 1876.

Messrs. Durant and Pryor:

GENTLEMEN: In reply to your suggestion, I beg to say that in consequence of the election of last November, I found myself confronted with a hostile Legislature, and embarrassed and baffled in my endeavors to carry out my plans for the welfare of my State and of my party. I resolved therefore to resign my office as Governor of the State of Mississippi, but meanwhile articles of impeachment were instituted against me, and of course I could not and would not retire from my position under imputation of any charge affecting my honor or integrity. For the reason indicated I still desire to escape the burdens which are compensated by no public usefulness, and if the articles of impeachment now pending against me were dismissed, I should feel at liberty to carry out my desire and purpose of resignation.

I am, very truly, yours,
[Signed] ADELBERT AMES.

At three o'clock the impeachment Court assembled, and Mr. Featherzone presented the resolution and asked that the impeachment articles against Governor Ames be dismissed, which was done. Mr. Durant, of Governor Ames' counsel, then read the following:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
JACKSON, March 29, 1876.

To the People of the State of Mississippi:

I hereby respectfully resign the office of Governor of the State of Mississippi.

[Signed] ADELBERT AMES.

Colonel J. M. Stone, President *pro tem.* of the Senate, was installed as Governor at 5 P. M. The resignation of the Governor was a complete surprise to all except a few who had agreed on the plan last night. The Republicans generally were quite indignant.

Gentleman George H. Pendleton has left for home. Before leaving, he had a long conference with Thurman. It is intimated that it was agreed that he should exert himself to send a united delegation for Thurman.

Protection of Witnesses.

The Senate Judiciary Committee have decided to report adversely on the House bill to protect witnesses. Stevenson and Thurman favor the measure in a modified form.

Corruption in Navy.

Members of the House Naval Committee say that the investigations of the Portsmouth and Kittery navy yards continue with the suspicions against Chief Naval Constructor Hanscomb, of Portsmouth, of bribery.

Deficiencies in Executive Departments.

The Secretary of the Treasury has sent to the House estimates of the deficiencies in the Executive Departments for the current fiscal year, amounting to $2,700,000.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 29, 1876.

EMMA MINE INQUIRY—FURTHER TESTIMONY FROM ORDRONAUX.

General Schenck reappeared before the Committee on Foreign Affairs to-day. Alluding to the writ served on him just previous to leaving London, he produced a note from the law firm, stating that they had served it under the impression that he had resigned, apologizing for the mistake, and asking him to consider the proceedings abandoned. In answer to the remark that it had been said he left England without taking leave of the Queen, Schenck explained that he came home on leave of absence, but not knowing his status he did not know whether he would return to London. The usual note was sent to Lord Derby, stating that the Minister, being a member of Congress, was not able to pay his personal respects, and he had left the legation in charge of Colonel Hoffman. It was usual that the resignation of a minister took effect on the appointment of his successor, and as the successor had not yet been appointed, he supposed he was still Minister, but on a leave of absence. He left London for Washington for the sole purpose of appearing before the committee. Explaining the transactions between himself and Park, on shares and notes, Schenck said Park insisted on allowing him a balance of over £6,000 as interest, to which he was entitled on purchase and sale of stocks. Schenck refused to receive any such credit, and insisted on paying or settling in some way, as best he could, out of his means, the balance of the note. This was done by the payment of about $1,700 in cash and by turning over to Park certificates of paid up stocks in the Vermillion Coal Company of Illinois, the National Insurance Company of Washington, and in other companies, to the amount of $32,000, and promissory notes of Mr. Woodhull for $3,000 more, with the right to redeem the stock in four years.

Mr. Hewitt interrogated the witness closely as to the above settlement, calculating that Schenck, instead of being out of pocket, was in pocket $8,300 by the transaction. Schenck said he wished he could view it in that light.

Mr. Hewitt said he had proceeded very carefully in his questions, on the theory that Schenck was a party to the contract with Park, but the point remained, why Schenck, having turned over his property to Park, should continue to receive dividends on it? Schenck explained that the right to receive dividends, which were $2,100 on insurance and coal stocks, was to continue for four years, within which time he had the right to redeem the stocks, paying both principal and interest.

Mr. Hewitt said the suggestion was still open that at the end of the four years the stocks might be returned to him by Park. Schenck replied that Hewitt might as well say the same thing as to the mortgage of his house in Washington.

Mr. Hewitt remarked that he never knew a mortgagee to collect rents, unless for his actual protection. Schenck understood that a man might draw interest on a mortgage stock as well as on a mortgaged house. In answer to a question if, while Park was bestowing favors, it had occurred to him he was acting in order to secure his influence in the Emma mine transactions, Schenck replied that it never so occurred to him. He believed Park to be a liberal and generous man, and having been instrumental in bringing into the Emma mine speculation, he was desirous of assisting him out. He had no doubt Park and others would have been glad to have him serve as a manager or director. So long as he (Schenck) did not offend against public propriety, he believed he had a right to buy and sell any kind of property, whether as Minister, member of Congress, or occupying any other capacity. It would not, however, be commendable to go into the stock market. Schenck said he had made a mistake in becoming a director, and this gave him more concern than anything else. He might be obtuse, but he could not see that he committed a moral wrong. Schenck, in denying the statements of Lyon, whom he had seen but once, submitted a letter to him from Harry Brett, of London, in which he wants to know if James E. Lyon, now doing business in New York, is identical with James E. Lyon, of Wisconsin, who became a bankrupt in London in 1874. The Committee adjourned till Monday.

STATEMENT FROM SECRETARY ROBESON.

The Secretary of the Navy denies the published statement that he transmitted money to the house of Jay Cooke, McCullough & Co. in September, 1873. The money was transmitted to the Paymaster General of the Navy, then in London, to protect the credit of the navy in the event of Jay Cooke, McCullough & Co. stopping payment of the navy drafts, and was deposited in the Bank of England and with J. S. Morgan. No advances were made to Jay Cooke, McCullough & Co. until the latter part of October, after the house had shown its intention and ability to continue its regular payments of the navy drafts, and after ample security had been given to protect the Government. The Secretary also says that the Investigating Committee can have all the telegrams, including transmissions of cipher, on asking the Department for them.

NOTHING DONE IN DANA'S CASE.

The Senate, in executive session to-day, further discussed the nomination of Dana, but adjourned without action.

RETIREMENT OF LEGAL TENDERS.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day directed the retirement of $188,144, that being eighty per cent. of the new national bank circulation issued the present month.

AMENDMENT OF THE BANKRUPT LAWS.

The bill amendatory of the bankruptcy laws reported favorably from the Senate Judiciary Committee to-day, is the measure recently introduced by Mr. Thurman with some amendments. As reported, it provides that no voluntary assignment by a debtor of all his property, heretofore or hereafter made in good faith for the benefit of all his creditors ratably, and without creating any preference, and valid according to the law of the State where made, shall affect the validity of the same when subsequently adjudicated a bankrupt in a proceeding of involuntary bankruptcy, be a bar to the discharge of such debtor.

THE PRESIDENT'S ILL.

The President has been sick for two days and received no visitors to-day.

CUSTER TELLS ABOUT POST TRADERSHIPS.

General George A. Custer appeared before the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department to-day. He testified that Robert T. Sipe, post trader at Fort Abraham Lincoln, told that his profits were were $15,000 annually, one-third of which was paid to General Hedrick, of Iowa, and one-third to General Rice at Washington. He did not know, but he understood that a portion of it went to the Secretary of War. Raymond, the Indian agent at Fort Bartlett, he said, he paid $1,000 a year for getting him the place. Custer testified that the proclamation of the President extending the great Sioux military reservation enhanced the values of the trading posts on the North Missouri river, because it rendered them a more complete monopoly. Witness said that Thumb, trader at Fort Peck, was about to be removed when he obtained some affidavits showing that Orvil Grant and Layton Bros. were mixed up in the Indian frauds. General Custer said one object of General Belknap's visit to the frontier was to perfect arrangements whereby whisky could be brought across the Canadian line, refunding hundred and ninety-nine.

The Republican Senatorial Caucus to-day considered the question of adopting a rule which would preclude the incorporation of new legislation into appropriation bills. The effect of this would be to give a distinct notice to the House that in their reckless reductions they would be confronted by a rule of the Senate which could not be violated. Action was reached, but it is not probable that some such policy will be concluded upon.

The Retirement of Judge McCandless.

The Judiciary Committee of the House propose to take up the bill retiring Judge McCandless as soon as the impeachment of Belknap has been disposed of. Mr. Hopkins has received a letter from Judge McCandless, in which he hopes that his case will not be considered as political; that he is anxious to leave the bench as soon as possible. The Democrats are disposed to take exceptions to Edmunds' amendment providing for retirement within six months, they having the presumption to think that there is a chance of a Democratic administration.

United States Prisoners for West Virginia.

The Attorney General has concluded arrangements with the government of West Virginia for accommodation for one hundred United States prisoners at the State Penitentiary at Moundsville, near Wheeling. The Attorney General says that he will soon be able to fill that up.

Gentleman George H. Pendleton has left for home. Before leaving, he had a long conference with Thurman. It is intimated that it was agreed that he should exert himself to send a united delegation for Thurman.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., March 29, 1876.

EMMA MINE INQUIRY—FURTHER TESTIMONY FROM ORDRONAUX.

General Schenck reappeared before the Committee on Foreign Affairs to-day. Alluding to the writ served on him just previous to leaving London, he produced a note from the law firm, stating that they had served it under the impression that he had resigned, apologizing for the mistake, and asking him to consider the proceedings abandoned. In answer to the remark that it had been said he left England without taking leave of the Queen, Schenck explained that he came home on leave of absence, but not knowing his status he did not know whether he would return to London. The usual note was sent to Lord Derby, stating that the Minister, being a member of Congress, was not able to pay his personal respects, and he had left the legation in charge of Colonel Hoffman. It was usual that the resignation of a minister took effect on the appointment of his successor, and as the successor had not yet been appointed, he supposed he was still Minister, but on a leave of absence. He left London for Washington for the sole purpose of appearing before the committee. Explaining the transactions between himself and Park, on shares and notes, Schenck said Park insisted on allowing him a balance of over £6,000 as interest, to which he was entitled on purchase and sale of stocks. Schenck refused to receive any such credit, and insisted on paying or settling in some way, as best he could, out of his means, the balance of the note. This was done by the payment of about $1,700 in cash and by turning over to Park certificates of paid up stocks in the Vermillion Coal Company of Illinois, the National Insurance Company of Washington, and in other companies, to the amount of $32,000, and promissory notes of Mr. Woodhull for $3,000 more, with the right to redeem the stock in four years.

Mr. Hewitt interrogated the witness closely as to the above settlement, calculating that Schenck, instead of being out of pocket, was in pocket $8,300 by the transaction. Schenck said he wished he could view it in that light.

Mr. Hewitt said he had proceeded very carefully in his questions, on the theory that Schenck was a party to the contract with Park, but the point remained, why Schenck, having turned over his property to Park, should continue to receive dividends on it? Schenck explained that the right to receive dividends, which were $2,100 on insurance and coal stocks, was to continue for four years, within which time he had the right to redeem the stocks, paying both principal and interest.

Mr. Hewitt said the suggestion was still open that at the end of the four years the stocks might be returned to him by Park. Schenck replied that Hewitt might as well say the same thing as to the mortgage of his house in Washington.

Mr. Hewitt remarked that he never knew a mortgagee to collect rents, unless for his actual protection. Schenck understood that a man might draw interest on a mortgage stock as well as on a mortgaged house. In answer to a question if, while Park was bestowing favors, it had occurred to him he was acting in order to secure his influence in the Emma mine transactions, Schenck replied that it never so occurred to him. He believed Park to be a liberal and generous man, and having been instrumental in bringing into the Emma mine speculation, he was desirous of assisting him out. He had no doubt Park and others would have been glad to have him serve as a manager or director. So long as he (Schenck) did not offend against public propriety, he believed he had a right to buy and sell any kind of property, whether as Minister, member of Congress, or occupying any other capacity. It would not, however, be commendable to go into the stock market. Schenck said he had made a mistake in becoming a director, and this gave him more concern than anything else. He might be obtuse, but he could not see that he committed a moral wrong. Schenck, in denying the statements of Lyon, whom

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

SECRETARY ROBESON EXPLAINS.

No Irregular Acceptances Issued.

Endless Confusion in Postal Rates.

Another Stumbling Block for the House.

LETTER FROM JUDGE M'CANDLESS

He Desires to Leave the Bench as Soon as Possible.

United States Prisoners to be Quartered in West Virginia.

Pendleton Goes Home to Work for Thurman.

Deficiencies in Executive Department.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 29, 1876.

Secretary Robeson Explains.

The Secretary of the Navy, in regard to acceptances alleged to have been irregularly made on account of extravagant administration and in anticipation of next year's appropriation, says that it has always been customary to pay the navy on foreign stations by drafts on the fiscal agent of the United States in London, or on the department here; that it is impossible for every paymaster to have in hand the exact sum necessary to carry him through the year; that towards the end of the year it is necessary to get these balances in, otherwise these sums would be unavailable when funds were scarce; that these acceptances were necessary when funds were low and balances of paymasters not yet in, but they were always against funds of the current fiscal year; that no officer would disregard the law and risk his reputation by going beyond this.

More Confusion in Postal Rates.

The Senate bill fixing the rates of postage on third-class mail matter, the postal officials say, will occasion endless confusion in deciding between publications devoted primarily to advertising purposes at one rate, and transient newspapers and magazines at another. The process varying according to distance, will necessitate the preparation of distance tables from each of the thirty-six thousand postoffices to each of the other thirty-five thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine.

The Republican Senatorial Caucus to-day considered the question of adopting a rule which would preclude the incorporation of new legislation into appropriation bills. The effect of this would be to give a distinct notice to the House that in their reckless reductions they would be confronted by a rule of the Senate which could not be violated. Action was reached, but it is not probable that some such policy will be concluded upon.

The Retirement of Judge McCandless.

The Judiciary Committee of the House propose to take up the bill retiring Judge McCandless as soon as the impeachment of Belknap has been disposed of. Mr. Hopkins has received a letter from Judge McCandless, in which he hopes that his case will not be considered as political; that he is anxious to leave the bench as soon as possible. The Democrats are disposed to take exceptions to Edmunds' amendment providing for retirement within six months, they having the presumption to think that there is a chance of a Democratic administration.

United States Prisoners for West Virginia.

The Attorney General has concluded arrangements with the government of West Virginia for accommodation for one hundred United States prisoners at the State Penitentiary at Moundsville, near Wheeling. The Attorney General says that he will soon be able to fill that up.

Gentleman George H. Pendleton has left for home. Before leaving, he had a long conference with Thurman. It is intimated that it was agreed that he should exert himself to send a united delegation for Thurman.

Protection of Witnesses.

The Senate Judiciary Committee have decided to report adversely on the House bill to protect witnesses. Stevenson and Thurman favor the measure in a modified form.

Corruption in Navy.

Members of the House Naval Committee say that the investigations of the Portsmouth and Kittery navy yards continue with the suspicions against Chief Naval Constructor Hanscomb, of Portsmouth, of bribery.

Deficiencies in Executive Departments.

The Secretary of the Treasury has sent to the House estimates of the deficiencies in the Executive Departments for the current fiscal year, amounting to $2,700,000.

FIRE RECORD.

Steubenville, O.—$10,000.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

STEUBENVILLE, O., March 29, 1876.

The bonded warehouse attached to Thomas Mean's distillery was destroyed by fire this morning. Loss ten thousand dollars; insurance one thousand, in the Columbiana Mutual. The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary.

New Orleans—$12,000.

NEW ORLEANS, March 29.—Last night a fire originated in the house of Leapold Thompson, 31 Annette street, Third district, which was totally destroyed. The flames then extended to the adjoining house at the corner of Annette and Marales streets. Owing to a total absence of water and a high northerly wind blowing, the fire spread with great rapidity. Half a block, bounded by Annette, Marales, Urquhart and Stanthony streets, comprising about fifteen small buildings, were consumed. The hydrants within four or five blocks were dry, owing to the imperfect draining in that quarter. It was impossible to get water to where it could be utilized. The firemen were employed in pulling down buildings in the regular course of the fire. A number of firemen were severely burned. The loss is $25,000; insurance $12,000.

CASUALTIES.

House Blown Down—Two Persons Killed.

NEW YORK, March 29.—During the storm last night a frame building on the outskirts of Brooklyn, occupied by a colored family, was blown down, and the wife, about to give birth to a child, and a little boy, were killed. The husband and another child were badly injured.

A steamer and two barges were sunk in the Hudson river, while a landslide on the Hudson River Railroad detained the fast mail train three hours.

The Late Railroad Disaster in France.

NEW YORK, March 29.—A London letter speaking of the terrible railroad calamity at Ill, France, caused by the breaking of a bridge, owing to the heavy rain storms, says: "The carriages fell on top of each other and immediately disappeared in the river, where they were broken up by the strength of the stream. Those of the travelers who were not killed by the fall were unable to escape from the wagons in which they were imprisoned, and they were carried down the river until they were dashed to pieces against the rocks or slowly drowned. Over thirty bodies have already been recovered, but this, unfortunately, does not represent all the victims of the accident."

The Whisky Trials.

CHICAGO, March 29.—In the Rush & Pohlman case to-day, Emory Storrs completed his argument for the defendant in a most masterly speech. He showed the inconsistency of the theory of the Government, declared that only self-acknowledged perjurers had given evidence against the accused, and dwelt on the proven good character of his clients.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day—Clear or partly cloudy weather, and rising temperature, with light southerly to westerly winds, rising barometer on the Atlantic coast and in the Ohio Valley, and falling barometer in the southwest.

The miners of the Kohinoor and Turkey Run collieries, Schuylkill county, Pa., have succeeded in their strike.

The Bank of Greenfield, Ohio, a private banking concern, has suspended, with liabilities of about $80,000, and small ass

The Commercial.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1876.

LITTLE SAMMY COX labors under the hallucination that he has "enemies." His worst enemy is his own supercilious self-overestimation.

IT IS now evident that the Committee of Ways and Means intends to defeat Secretary BRISTOW'S bill to authorize a lengthened time for the redemption of four-and-a-half per cent. funding bonds.

IN VIEW of the peculiar manner in which PENDLETON secured his great claim which the Kentucky Central Railroad hatched up against the Government, is there anything to prevent Congress from making him refund the money? And if so, why?

THE Commissioner of Patents has just decided that an application for re-issue of a patent may be placed in interference with a patent granted prior to the date of filing the application for the patent which is sought to be released. This ruling is of interest to certain classes of our own community.

THE Bureau of Statistics reports for last month a very encouraging export trade from all the ports of $50,325,000 gold value, as against $42,014,000 same month last year. On the other hand, the imports of foreign merchandise fell from $50,352,000 in February, 1875, to $37,756,000 in February, 1876. Our business scales are becoming better adjusted.

THE sufferings of hundreds of women at Washington, and the actual starvation of two resulting from stoppage of Government work on account of lack of appropriations, is a ghastly commentary on the efforts of RANDALL and HOLMAN, backed by the Democratic majority in the House, to reduce still further the slender pittance of the workers in the Departments. The American people have hearts, and they demand that this bastard economy and rank injustice shall not be permitted.

THE German Government proposes to buy out the railroads in the hands of companies, and in a preparatory report the basis of purchase is stated to be the twenty-five fold amount of the average annual net earnings for the preceding five years. This estimate produces the sum of 642½ millions of thalers, about $450,000,000 for twelve private roads. The roads cost 287 million thalers, about $200,000,000. Some are worth over three times their original cost, and they one and all earn dividends.

THE *Post* is jubilant over the recent decisions of the United States Supreme Court in the Grant Parish case and the Kentucky election case, both involving to some degree the constitutionality of the Enforcement act, the cause of its rejoicing being that the White League Democracy in many parts of the South will now be encouraged to deny to the negroes the right of suffrage in the approaching Presidential election. Intimidation will be resorted to with impunity, except in places where the negroes are strong enough to hold their own without aid from the national authorities, and the *Post* chuckles with delight.

A FRIEND of the COMMERCIAL thinks some of our recent criticisms of President GRANT have been "too severe." We must beg leave to differ from him. "A gift destroyeth the heart," said the wise man. When the President can receive gifts without stint, and without a blush, returning favor for the gift, we may not wonder that those around him of his own mold follow in his foot-steps, nor that the evil example extends its influence to the extremest borders of the land. It is sincerely to be hoped that the present surroundings, and the absolute prostration of all his hopes for a third term, may influence him to determine his future action under advice of the wise and good.

THE Supreme Court of the United States has just delivered two important decisions concerning the validity of town bonds issued for railroad purposes. In one case the Court affirmed the judgment of the United States Circuit Court against an Illinois town on bonds issued in payment for a subscription to the capital stock of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad Company, for which it received in return certificates of shares of the stock, holding the issue of the bonds to have been authorized by sufficient legislation, and intimating that a defense of want of authority to issue the bonds while the town retains the shares of stock for which they were issued is not strictly honest. The other case was also an affirmance of the validity of municipal bonds issued by a New York town in aid of the construction of a railroad.

THE British Board of Trade returns for February, just published, state that the total declared value of the exports from the United Kingdom in that month was £16,482,565, against £17,467,258 in February, 1875, and £18,282,803 in February, 1874, thus showing a decline of 5 per cent. compared with last year, and of 10 per cent. compared with 1874. For the two months ended February the decline was over 3 per cent., compared with 1875, and nearly 12 per cent., compared with 1874. The total value of the imports for February was £33,780,097, against £25,925,518 in February, 1875, and £31,350,778 in February, 1874; an increase of 23 per cent. in the one case, and of 7 per cent. in the other. In the two months ended February there was an increase of 9½ per cent., compared with the corresponding period in 1875, and of nearly 7 per cent., compared with 1874.

WILL the line stretch out to the crack of doom? Another Democratic idol has fallen. CHARLES O'CONOR, the Presidential nominee of the straight Bourbon Democrats in 1872, is charged by the widow of the tragedian FORREST with extorting a most extravagant remuneration for legal services in her behalf which it has been universally understood were rendered gratuitously. The facts, as stated, are these: When the FORREST divorce suit was tried in 1851, Mrs. FORREST was represented by O'CONOR, whose able conduct of the case, and especially the fact, announced by a card in the New York newspapers, that he gave his services gratuitously, brought him an immense amount of reputation and popularity. The papers resounded with his praises, and several valuable testimonials were presented to him in recognition of his chivalrous defense of a wronged woman. FORREST confirmed, by interposing a number of legal objections, to postpone payment of the money until 1868, when it had amounted to $64,000. Mrs. FORREST, or SINCLAIR as she has been called since the trial, now states that O'CONOR retained $59,000 of this money, presenting a bill in which $19,000 was credited to his attorney, and $40,000 to himself for professional services. The great lawyer lately had a very narrow escape from death—but if the present charge be true, his honorable reputation is already in the grave.

IT WAS recently stated that "the friends" in England (probably the accomplices) of LAWRENCE, the notorious free trade smuggler, who, it will be remembered, was lately extradited from England, have raised large sums of money to prevent his trial for any other offenses than those for which he was given up, and the impression obtains at Washington that this excitement is supporting WINSLOW and making the fight ostensibly in his behalf, but, in fact, in the interest of LAWRENCE. If this is really the secret of WINSLOW'S detention by the British authorities, they may as well surrender him at once. A decision was made in the United States Circuit of New York on Tuesday in the case of LAWRENCE, touching this plea against the jurisdiction of the court, to the effect that an offender against the justice of his country can acquire no rights by delay in justice. Between him and frauding that justice has offended no rights accrue to the offender by flight. He remains at all times and everywhere liable to be called to answer to the law for his violations thereof provided he comes within the reach of its arm. On the claim of immunity under the treaty of 1842, set up for the prisoner, the court held that the treaty does not sustain it, and in regard to the claim that both parties to the treaty have construed it to grant such immunity, it says it only applies to cases of "lawless violence." It assumes that he will be tried for the offense for which his extradition was demanded, but there is no provision to protect him from trial for other offenses. The British Extradition act of 1870, the Court says, could have no effect here, and it appears to be the opinion of English judges that it has none there to limit the operations of the treaty of 1842. In regard to the plea based on the order of the President and directions of the Attorney-General that no such orders or directions can have any legal effect on the jurisdiction of the court, it is held that "the courts, in determining their jurisdiction, look to the law, and within that jurisdiction they are absolutely free from the control of any other department of the Government." In regard to the plan of an express agreement in this case between the two Governments that the prisoner should only be tried for the offense for which he was surrendered, the Court quoted approvingly an opinion of Lord Chief Justice TENTERDEN that the Court cannot inquire into the circumstances under which the offender came within its jurisdiction, and says it must be the law here until overruled. The plea to the jurisdiction and all the other pleadings were therefore set aside, and the prisoner directed to plead anew to the charges. The principles here laid down are undoubtedly correct; while in the case of WINSLOW it is also evident that neither the Federal Executive nor Congress could bind the Massachusetts authorities by giving a guarantee that he shall only be tried on the specific charges of forgery on which his extradition is demanded. Appearances indicate that the present condition of affairs between the two countries on this question cannot continue much longer.

A SHAMEFUL PLOT.

When the so called MORRISON tariff bill was first reported in committee, we stated that it was chiefly the product of DAVID A. WELLS, the notorious agent in this country of the free trade manufacturers of Great Britain. It now appears that they knew, even in advance of the committee, generally, that such a bill was coming. The February number of the *British Trade Circular* contained the following announcement, among other news paragraphs, in the middle of the magazine, one day after MORRISON presented his bill in the House:

"Although the Protectionist party in the United States is incomparably the strongest and most influential, yet there is an important section of the people who are not wedded to that economical heresy. There is reason to believe that Free Trade principles will continue to gain fresh support every day, and that they will ultimately prevail we can not doubt. *We note that a new Tariff Bill, making a large reduction in the tariff, increasing the free list, abolishing combined rates, and fixing specific duties equal to twenty-five or thirty per cent. ad valorem, is to be introduced into the House of Representatives.* Whether it becomes law or not—and the probability is that the bill, if even it passed the Lower House and Senate, would be vetoed by President Grant—it at all events shows that the Free Trade party is healthily active."

The March number of the same journal contains the following significant passage:

"If there is a glimmer of light on economical subjects in the United States, if there is any patriotism, we might almost say, the peculiar ascendency of Protectionist policy in America might now be easily broken up. But although the country finds that higher import duties do not mean increased national revenue, and although it has become very tired of redeeming its National Debt by heavy taxes and large annual repayments, yet class interests on the side of protection are strong enough, we fear, to overpower the desultory opposition to the high tariff now in existence. It is true that Mr. Morrison has brought a bill before Congress for modifying the existing scale of duties on imports, but a bill is brought in every year. No matter what its shape may be when it goes into the political mill, it either gets ground into some form of Protection in Congress, or torn to shreds by the time the Senate has done with it. There is great outcry just now against State taxes in America, and for the reason that it is so directed we fear that the popular enthusiasm necessary to overwhelm class opposition will hardly arise high enough to modify the hurtful tariff, even to the modest extent proposed in Mr. Morrison's bill. The bill applies to all free goods, as well as luxuries, and seeks to leave the tariff at about two-thirds of its present height, on the average. The alterations are irregular and are very slight in the cases of special industries, *but would on the whole be welcomed with the greatest pleasure by manufacturers on this side of the Atlantic.*"

The *Bulletin of the Iron and Steel Association* very pertinently suggests that some of the English manufacturers had a hand in the preparation of the measure. And indeed it looks so, else how could the editor of the *Journal* have known, so long in advance of all Americans and Congressmen and the Committee on Ways and Means itself, that a free trade tariff bill was to be introduced into the House of Representatives? The *Bulletin* demands that MORRISON and WELLS shall be interrogated on this point by an "investigating committee," if necessary, since if our tariff laws are to be made to order for us in England, the American people have a right to know it. And if MORRISON knows that the bill which bears his name was so made, the people have a right to know that also.

THE CONVENTION.

The harmonious action of the Republican Convention yesterday—a full account of whose proceedings is given elsewhere in this paper—presents an admirable contrast to the factious contentiousness of the Democratic Convention a week ago, and the results fully justify the general confidence felt that the convention would render a good account of its stewardship. The selection of the electoral ticket and of the delegates to the National Convention was wisely made, while the platform is a model of conciseness and strength, boldness and truth, honesty and comprehensiveness. No earnest and consistent Republican will question its wisdom and justice, constituting as it does a most admirable presentation of the salient political questions of the day. The terms in which the name of Governor HARTRANFT is submitted to the National Convention for President are, also, equally expressive, just and true. Pennsylvania being the second State in the Union, her position in the great political campaign of the Centennial year is one of the utmost importance. The issues to be decided by the people are of momentous gravity, and it is cause for great rejoicing that the grand old Commonwealth's voice for honesty, integrity, economy, education and liberty, is so clear and unequivocal. In its very tones there is the vibrant ring of victory.

SHORTLY after the late election in Mississippi, it will be remembered, ex-United States Senator REVELS, who, were it not for the success of the Republican party in securing for the colored people their rights would now be on a slave plantation with a taskmaster throwing the paddle on his back, addressed a letter to President GRANT on the political situation in that State, which, being a malicious libel on the Republican party of the State, was of course copied by the Democratic press from one end of the country to the other. A recent letter written by a leading colored citizen of Mississippi to the Jackson *Pilot* unfolds the secret causes of REVEL'S defection from the party with which he formerly affiliated. It appears that just as long as he held office he was an ardent Republican; but since 1874, when he was removed from the Presidency of Alcora University, on the ground of unfitness, he has been known as a bitter opponent of the State administration. He was made President of the Colored University in 1871, because he had had the honor of being a United States Senator. After three years of mismanagement, and after showing himself totally incompetent to fill the position with either credit or success he was finally removed by the trustees, the Governor consenting to the change. Since that time REVELS has been a bitter enemy of the State administration. He took the stump in the last campaign for the White League Democracy, and did all in his power to overthrow the party which had once tried to honor him. It is true that a few dishonest men have crept into office, but his wholesale villification of the party is unworthy of any truthful man; and it is especially disreputable in a man who proclaims himself in his letter as a "minister of the Gospel."

A PARTY of Clevelanders are down South on a little jamboree. According to the *Herald*, they met with an unpleasant incident at Port Royal. When the train bearing them arrived late at night, they were received by a committee and a brass band, and marched in state to a building where a supper was spread for them. Over the door of the building was the inviting inscription "Welcome!" The chairman of the committee shouted "Welcome, welcome, gentleman and ladies!" and then mounted the chair to make a more formal speech to the same effect. A speech of response was made. Rousing cheers were given, and after a jolly good time the guests filed out to take the steamer for Savannah. At the door a distinguished citizen of Port Royal greeted them with outstretched hand, which the foremost departing guest grasped to give it a hearty shake of friendship, but dropped it in astonishment when greeted with the unexpected demand: "Seventy-five cents, please!" Slowly and sadly each guest planted his three quarters of a dollar, taking back all the cheers and kind words wasted on the deceptive Port Royalers.

The French are talking about a universal exposition for the year 1878.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A certain New Orleans paper is edited by Hearsay.

A lot of drunken pigs stole a hogshead of ale in Cincinnati recently.

Mr. Hogwash is an Indiana politician, and of course feeds on Democratic swill.

The entire Mississippi Valley is filled with floods and torrents, and tearing of dams.

The United States is now next to London in the supply of rags to English manufacturers.

A late Papal brief denounces liberty of worship in Spain as loading the State with a great crime.

A murder was recently perpetrated in the pineries of Colorado over the pronunciation of a word.

A curious spectacle. That of Confederates looking into the management and supply of the Union forces.

Bank stocks are the last description of public stocks to come down, but they are decidedly on the decline.

Solid. The Bank of England within the last seven years has received money valued at three billion pounds sterling.

The Secretary of the Treasury will sell bonds to meet payments for judgments of the Alabama Claims Commission.

Look out for a corner in soap. Montgomery Blair says that "the Democratic party, to be strong, must be clean."

Happy thought of the Springfield *Republican*: A bicentennial State will be wanted in 1976. Save New Mexico for that!

It is predicted that a greater volume of water will pour down the Mississippi river this year than any previous year since 1826.

The greatest sentence of the devil's bible is "When you are going among the Romans you must do as the Romans do."

The firm of Bowles Brothers, London and Paris bankers, bowled out by bankruptcy some years ago, is to be resuscitated.

The anti-gas fever has extended from Portland, Maine, to Selma, Ala., both cities having discontinued the use of street lamps.

The perennial nuisance who is confident that a third party is necessary to save the country, has commenced to reappear.

Babcock hasn't yet stated how that sealed letter of Secretary Pierrepont's addressed to the President came to be lying open on his desk.

The pestilent lunatic who takes an insane delight in canvassing in every place the chances of Presidential aspirants, is on hand again.

The Richmond *Whig* mentions the departure of a large cargo of slate for New Orleans. To figure up anticipated White League gains?

One branch of the Massachusetts Legislature has passed a bill confirming the marriage of James Parton and Ellen Willis Eldridge.

Louisiana papers report the magnolia in some portions of that State in full bloom, the fragrance imparted giving March the sweetness of May.

During the heavy gale on the New England coast last Tuesday large numbers of living fish were blown ashore and captured by the inhabitants.

The sublimity of audacity. Recently a stage was robbed in Nevada of some silver bars, and the robbers took two horses from the stage to carry their plunder.

Shearman having taken a part of the stock of Beecher's *Christian Union*, the St. Louis *Republican* now considers that journal on the flood-tide to prosperity.

A Minnesota girl is named Happiness Quinn, and half the young men in the neighborhood are indulging in "life, liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

English capital is finding its way over here in large investments; but the investors are wisely sending over their own people to assume charge as far as may be.

The scientists of England have just discovered that there is a correlation between the temperature of the sea and the catch of herrings, the takes being largest in cold weather.

A man convicted of murder in Salt Lake City and sentenced to death, having been allowed to make choice of the manner in which he should be put to death, has elected to be shot.

"And Betty, give my cheek a little red." A dying Troy woman wouldn't allow anybody to wash her face with water, because it was waxed and powdered, and she wanted to be a pretty corpse.

Efforts are being made by our paper manufacturers to find markets in Mexico and South America, which are at present supplied by European manufactures. This is the kind of enterprise that the times demand.

The damage sustained by the late storm rolls up most appalling figures. From the Atlantic to the Mississippi the land was deluged, and an incalculable amount of property was destroyed and numerous lives lost.

It appears that the national motto *E pluribus unum* is contained in an obscure Latin poem by Horace, describing an Afri can cook mixing salad, "one color comes from an ass's head," of the herbs and milk and other things of which the salad was compounded.

A sure enough "bonanza." The Consolidated Virginia Mine has just divided its thirteenth monthly dividend of $1,080,000 gold. In twenty three months the mine has taken out $30,000,000 of treasure and divided $17,280,000 of profits.

The President of the St. Louis Academy of Science, in the course of a lecture in St. Louis a few days ago, on "Insects," said that the annual loss to farmers, caused by insects, averaged $100,000,000 a year, and that the chinch bug alone, during 1874, caused a loss of $200,000,000 in the Western States. He estimated the losses by grasshoppers during the last three years at $50,000,000.

PERSONAL.

Mr. A. T. Stewart proposes to give a grand ball in honor of the Emperor and Empress of Brazil, on their arrival in New York, next month.

Elizabeth Oakes Smith writes in the *Home Journal* that Edgar A. Poe's death was caused by a severe beating he received at the hands of a friend of a woman he had betrayed. It does take a woman to prowl around a man's grave and dig up ugly things about him.

Mr. Whistler, an American artist and etcher, of Baltimore, who has been in London for some years, appears to have made for himself a great reputation there. In one day it is said that ten thousand persons visited a collection of his works. Some of his pictures and etchings it is understood will be sent to the centennial.

A rather odd answer made by one of the witnesses yesterday in the trial of a New York will case tended to disturb, in a slight degree, the usual decorum attending proceedings in court. The witness was asked by counsel, "State what the testator said about the plaintiff." The answer was: "He said that before he would have a wife like that he would marry the devil's daughter and go to live with the old couple." No further questions were asked.

Mr. H. Kelling, of Amboy, Illinois, denies the current report that two children of Charles Dickens' brothers are in want, and says: "They are going to a good school, and attend church and Sabbath school regularly. They are strong, healthy children, are well provided for, and need no assistance from any person. With regard to the eldest son, Bertram Dickens, he is now studying for the Methodist ministry, and is a very amiable and well-disposed young man.

It is the fashion with some of the suffragists even—let alone other folks—to sneer at Susan B. Anthony, and look upon her as old-fogyish and an out-of-date apostle of the rights of the sex. We wish the suffragists not only but womanhood generally had more exemplars of her sort. When the *Revolution* closed its brief, brilliant and somewhat erratic career, it was in debt $10,000. Miss Anthony was its publisher and responsible. Instead of availing herself of the Bankrupt Act as a man and a brother would have done, she immediately went to work in the lecture field, and has earned the money to pay every claim. It is no joke to earn $10,000 on the platform, but through cold and storm, winter and summer, this honest woman—the big debt constantly before her eyes—has labored with zeal and energy. Beat that if you can, sneerers.

There has quite recently been discovered on the lands of the Atkinson estate, about one mile south of Athens, a coal despoit which presents assuring promise of abundant richness. A pure vein now being worked is thirty-eight inches thick and is associated with physical indications, readily understood by the eye of the experienced miner, as foreshowing the existence of a sub-parallel vein of yet greater dimensions. The coal specimens which we have examined from this locality, and which were gathered at random, possessed every characteristic of the best quality; being entirely free from sulpher or slate, not soiling the hands when handled, easily ignitable, burning with a clear flame and engendering an exceptionably high degree of heat. *Athens, O., Messenger.*

STATE NEWS.

The Greenville *Argus* says: The Patrons of Husbandry in this portion of the State are moving towards the forming of a "Patrons' Relief Association of Northwestern Pennsylvania," an organization for the benefit of farmers after the style of Masons', Odd Fellows' and Workmen's relief societies.

Mrs. Ripper, wife of J. George Ripper, of the Pennsylvania *Staats Zeitung*, sustained a painful accident on Thursday night, having fallen down a step at her residence in Harrisburg. She had been frightened by a noise in the house, which she supposed emanated from robbers. She ran out to give the alarm and fell as stated.

An attempt was made to rob the national bank of Chambersburg on Friday evening about nine o'clock. One man was arrested and is in jail. Another man escaped in his bare head, riding a gray horse. He was of medium size, smooth face, high cheek bones, dark hair and was about thirty-five years of age. He wore dark clothing.

The Girard *Cosmopolite* says: "Messrs. S. S. Bulard and John Kirkland cut forty-two cords of chestnut wood and corded it up in fifty-two hours working time recently. This is considered extraordinary fast work. The same gentlemen cut down one tree which yielded seven cords of wood, 1,500 feet of lumber and three coons, the hides of which netted $2 25."

A woman has been arrested in Philadelphia on a charge of subornation of perjury. Some time ago her son was tried for stealing some copper. During the trial two boys swore that the accused boy had no connection with the theft. Later developments justified the belief that the mother of the boy had induced the witness to swear falsely; hence her arrest on the charge mentioned.

The great Corliss engine, which is intended to furnish the motive power for the machinery in Machinery Hall, on the Centennial grounds, has arrived in Philadelphia from Rhode Island. Some idea of its immense size may be formed from the statement that its total weight is 1,380,588 pounds, and that sixty cars were required for its transportation to its destination, the freight charges amounting to $6,442 55.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Parks, of Orwell, Bradford county, celebrated their golden wedding on the 5th inst. They were both born and have always lived within a few miles of where they now reside, and neither of them were ever more than one hundred miles from the spot where first they beheld the light. Mr. Parks, though nearly 76 years of age, never remembers being confined to bed by sickness for a single day.

The Waynesburg *Independent* says: There has probably not been such an emigration furore in Greene county for years as exists just now. Scores, and we can almost say hundreds, are leaving the county this spring in search of Western homes. Some of them have had the notion in their heads for years, others have just been "taken," while still others think to find a place where the weight of hard times is less oppressive.

Monday's Philadelphia *Press* says: Among the latest arrivals in this city should be mentioned the unexpected advent of a scorpion at *The Press* offices last night. The animal evidently desired to visit the Centennial, and accordingly crept into a Texas exchange in order to secure a free passage. The new comer not having arranged for lodgings in advance was given comfortable quarters in the office stove as speedily as possible.

There were 387 deaths in Philadelphia last week—a decrease of 15 from the previous week. Of the whole number 217 were adults and 170 children, 70 being under one year of age; 168 died from diseases of the respiratory organs; apoplexy 5, cancer 5, congestion of brain 7, convulsions 20, heart disease 11, dropsy 113, debility 14, scarlet fever 9, typhoid fever 11, marasmus 11, inflammation of brain 13, old age 14, paralysis 8, small pox 11.

The Reading Centennial Rifle Association propose to hold a shooting match near that city, in April, commencing on the 24th and continuing several days. Shooting will be at 100 yards, rest, with five shots, measuring from center to center, string measure. The prizes will amount in the aggregate to $2,000. The number of prizes and the amount of each will be agreed upon by the participants. Telescopic sights will be excluded. The National rules will govern the match. Riflemen from all parts of New York and Pennsylvania are expected to be present.

The Altoona *Mirror* of the 24th inst. says: The many friends of W. H. Swartz, Esq., local editor of the Hollidaysburg *Standard*, will be pained beyond expression to learn that he has lost his reason, and that he is now an inmate of the State Asylum at Harrisburg, having been taken thither this morning. This terrible affliction is the result of recent and severe illness. Mr. Swartz was one of the best writers in the State, had a clear mind, and was a genial, warm-hearted man. His sad misfortune will be the cause of deep regret among his friends and all citizens of the county, and the hope will be earnestly and prayerfully entertained that his reason will be restored to him.

There appeared last week in the obituary columns of the Philadelphia *Ledger* notices of the deaths of twenty-one persons—seven men and fourteen women—who had lived to or beyond the advanced age of eighty years, to wit: Patrick Collins, 80; Rachael Hawthorne, 80; Ann Browning, 81; Tacy Fitzwater, 81; Lydia Mackemson, 81; Thos. C. Scattergood, 81; Mary McCartney, 82; Amos Jones, 82; James Cain, 83; Robecca Cox, 83; Sarah Greer, 83; Hannah Wynn, 83; Susan Foxcroft, 84; John Hallowell, 85; Mary Kelly, 84; John Mooney, 87; Miriam Slim, 88; James Sproul, 88; Hannah McDowell, 89; Bridget Duffey, 90, and Rose Eagan, 96.

The original copy of a license granted to George Rickseecker, of Elizabethtown, Lancaster county, by John Penn, lieuten ant Governor of the province of Pennsylvania and counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex (now in Delaware) has been found. In the document, which was issued in the year 1768, it is set forth that the license shall be granted for nine months "provided he shall not at any time during the said term suffer any drunken men, unlawful gaming, or any disorderly person, nor sell any drink to the Indians to debauch or hurt them; but in all things observe and practice all laws and ordinances of this government to his said employment relating."

The Titusville *Herald* says: A man calling himself Dr. Roberts came to Pittsburgh about six weeks ago and represented that he was business manager for the Illustrated Centennial Publishing Company, of Philadelphia. His stock in trade was a lot of papers published by the company, and accompanying the same was a fine engraving of the Centennial buildings. Roberts proposed to send the paper to regular subscribers a year for $1 50. He hired agents, and together they canvassed Pittsburgh and parts of West Virginia and Ohio; also, the oil region. Some of the Millerstown subscribers telegraphed to Philadelphia to ascertain if the thing was O. K. and received an answer that there was no such firm and they didn't know any such person as Roberts. The swindler was forced to disgorge his ill-gotten gains.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
No. 61 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh.
CHARTERED IN 1862.
BOARD OF MANAGERS.—George A. Berry, President. Thos. Carnahan, Jas. Park, jr., Vice Presidents: D. E. McKinley, Secretary and Treasurer. A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Robert G. Schmertz.
SOLICITOR—John H. Bailey.

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43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.
W. W. MARTIN.....President
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THE FAMILY.
While it is a Denominational paper, it embraces in its outlook all the branches of the Redeemer's kingdom. Its articles are brief, pointed, lively and earnest. The INTERNATIONAL LESSONS, prepared expressly for the JOURNAL by one of its Editors, are said by leading Sunday School men in all parts of the country, to be the VERY BEST ISSUED, and WORTH THE PRICE OF THE PAPER. These, with other marked features, render it a most desirable paper for Sunday School Workers. It is just such a paper as suits the times, both in
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Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, or Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and G streets, o Room 2, 16 Sixth street Pittsburgh. Send for circular.

DRY GOODS.
James Caldwell & Co.
Invite special attention to their Spring Opening, which will be found unusually attractive:
LADIES' SPRING SUITS
In great variety of styles and material, ranging in price from Five to Fifty Dollars.
Ladies' Embroidered, Braided and Trimmed
OVERDRESSES & COSTUMES,
In Black Cashmere and Drap D'Ete.
Black Cashmere Sacques and Jackets,
Black Silk Sacques and Jackets,
Linen Suits and Costumes.
Black Dress Silks,
From 75 cents to $4 50 per yard.
A choice selection of DRESS SILKS, STRIPES and MIXTURES, for Ladies' Spring Suits and Dresses,
All the new Fabrics in CHECKS, STRIPES and MIXTURES, for Ladies' Spring Suits and Dresses,
BLACK & COLORED CASHMERES.
Black Silk Warp Cashmeres and Henrietta Cloths.
Black Tamise Cloth. Black Grenadines and Hermanis.
Black Alpacas, Mohair Lustres and Brillianteens.
A large stock of Tambourd Lace Curtains, of our own importation, at less than regular prices.
AGENTS FOR THE
DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE.
James Caldwell & Co.,
115 AND 117 FEDERAL STREET,
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In Girard Bank Building, Allegheny,
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PROF. S. D. KVERHART, of the Pittsburgh High School, Teacher of BOOKKEEPING and COMMERCIAL CALCULATIONS.
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TERMS REASONABLE. Open from 8 A. M. SATURDAYS.
Persons desiring to fit themselves for Teachers can obtain a thorough knowledge of Plain and Ornamental Penmanship. TTHS

THE SUMMER SESSION
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CLEVELAND MEDICAL SCHOOL,
Consisting of Recitations, Lectures and Clinics, at the College and Cleveland City Hospital, will commence on
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And continue twelve weeks. A Summer and Winter Course will be considered equivalent to a year's study.
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DECORATIVE NOVELTIES for the coming Spring season.
The best Parisian bon-ses fully represented.
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SCARLET EMBOSSED and PEBBLE GROUND PAPERS.
NEW BALL PILASTERS, on Screens, very recherche.
AMERICAN GOLD GROUND, GILT, SATIN, PLAIN, EMBOSSED DAMASK, &c.
First Prize Silver Medal Awarded at Exposition.
DE ZOUCHE & CO.,
101 Fifth Avenue,
NEXT TO POSTOFFICE.
New Paper Hangings!
FOR SPRING OF 1876,
At No. 107 Market Street,
NEAR FIFTH AVENUE.
A large stock now opening, and to which constant additions will be made. Of Every Grade, consisting of GILT, FINE BRIGHT and SATIN DAMASK AND BLANK WALL PAPERS. Dados, Decorations, Friezes, Ceilings and Centre Mouldings, of the newest designs, which we offer at the lowest prices. CALL AND SEE.
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HAS REMOVED TO
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FIRST DOOR BELOW FIFTH AVENUE.
All the latest styles on hand. Call and examine.

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Boilers, Engine and Elevator,
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FURNITURE!
Parlor, Library, Diningroom & Chamber
FURNITURE.
Best Styles and Largest Stock in City to select from.
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UPHOLSTER GOODS,
OF ALL KINDS.
139 Liberty Street,
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New Restaurant and Oyster Saloon,
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FINE OYSTERS A SPECIALTY.
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99 WATER STREET.

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1876.
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Nos. 165, 167 and 169 Federal Street, Allegheny, Pa.
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A new and complete stock of Spring Dress Goods at very attractive prices.
AT 12 1-2 CENTS,
Large assortment Striped Dress Goods.
AT 12 1-2 AND 15 CENTS,
Extra quality in New Spring Plaids, double-faced, a bargain.
AT 18 3-4 CENTS,
A very fine line of New Plaids, latest effects and colorings.
AT 37 1-2 AND 44 CENTS,
New Silk Poplins, shades for Spring, worth nearly double.
AT 50C TO $1 00,
A very desirable line of New Spring Dress Goods, in a large variety of fabrics, extra good value.
COLORED ALPACA.
A choice assortment of Colored Alpacas, double-faced, warranted to wash without shrinking or fading, all the new shades.
ALPACA AND MOHAIR.
Complete assortment of Black Alpacas and Mohairs, superior value, from 18½c to 87½c.
75C TO $4 50 PER YARD,
Extra good value in Black Dress Silks.
A VERY SELECT
And choice assortment of New Light and Mourning Check Silks, New Light and Mourning Stripe Silks, Fancy Colored Silks.
BARGAINS IN
Jeans, Cassimeres, Cloths, &c., for Men and Boys' wear.

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CENTENNIAL 1876. SPRING.
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LEGAL.
Notice in Equity.
William G. Fargo and William G. Moorhead vs. The Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railway Company.
In the Court of Common Pleas of Crawford county, No. 3, August Term, 1874. In Equity.
Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned, heretofore duly appointed Receiver, &c., in the above entitled action, will, on the 27 day of March, 1876, file in the office of the Prothonotary of said Court, at Meadville, in said county, his account as such Receiver, and that on the 9th day of March, 1876, Wm. H. Smith, Esq., was, by the order and decree of said Court, duly appointed Master to audit, settle and report upon said account, and distribute the funds in the hands of the undersigned as such Receiver.
And notice is also hereby further given, that on the 13th day of April, 1876, at 10 o'clock A. M. of that day, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, the undersigned will move the said Court for an order or decree directing him to deliver the property that may be in his hands by virtue of the appointment aforesaid, to the Pittsburgh, Titusville and Buffalo Oil Well Supply Company, the party entitled that he distribute the funds now in his hands as such Receiver to the parties found to be entitled thereto, and that he be discharged and free from all duties of the trust.
DAVID McCAR Receiv
M. CROSBY, Solicitor.
March 11, 1876.

Notice in Equity.
William G. Fargo and William G. Moorhead vs. The Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railway Company.
In the Court of Common Pleas of Crawford county, No. 3, August Term, 1874.
Notice is hereby given, that on the 8th day of March, 1876, the undersigned was duly appointed Master in the above entitled action, to examine the accounts of David McCargo, Receiver, &c., heretofore filed in said action, and report the same to Court, and to make distribution of the funds now in the hands of said Receiver, and that I shall attend to the duties of my appointment at the Arbitration Room, in the Court House, in the city of Meadville, in said county, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th day of April, 1876, at 10 o'clock A. M., when and where all parties interested may attend if they think proper to do so.
WM. R. SCOTT, Master.
March 11, 1876.

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION upon the Estate of Benj. P. Bakewell, late of the

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 29, 1876.

The loan market continued to show its former condition of ease to-day, and rates for discount were at their previous low range. On collaterals, such as the stock of good national banks, money could be obtained by first-class borrowers at six per cent. Mercantile paper of the best class called at 7@9 per cent. at the banks; 8@10 per cent. on the street. The commercial situation generally, for the past two or three weeks, has been kept quiet by the backwardness of the season and other retarding influences, the results of which are seen in the present plethoric condition of the banks. We have no especial news in local stocks. We hear of sales of Cambria Iron Company's stock at 16½; Pennsylvania Railroad consolidated mortgage sixes at 99¼; do general mortgage sixes, coupons, at 105. The Philadelphia *Press* announces that the interest coupons of the Oil Creek Railroad Company's first mortgage bonds, due on the 1st prox., will be paid at the Manufacturers' National Bank of that city on and after the date of maturity.

The silver resumption scheme which proposes to substitute a less valuable and convenient currency for our present fractional per currency, is still the subject of very sharp criticism by some of the leading financial journals of the East. The ideas of displacing the only portion of the government currency which is not in suspension, at an expense of some $50,000,000, merits pretty severe criticism, especially as the new currency would be about the most uncertain and inconvenient that could be obtained. If the silver coin proves more valuable than paper currency, it will quickly pass out of circulation, driving the country back to the issue of shinplasters, postage stamps and car tickets. If the contrary be the case, the New York *Bulletin* very aptly puts the case:

"If silver coins do not circulate on their intrinsic value, but in spite of it, what is the use of the Government spending $40,000,000, with loss of interest, to put them in the place of a currency that costs nothing but the expense of printing it? If the value of silver bullion contributes no more to the currency value of silver coin than blank paper does to the value of fractional currency, why is not stamped paper just as good as stamped silver for the purposes of small change?" There might be some practical reason in the idea of adopting a silver dollar as a standard of values in place of the gold dollar, but the scheme in the present shape has very little to recommend it.

—Eastern banks are reducing the rates paid to depositors on balances. In Boston one of the leading banks have reduced the rate on balances to 2½ per cent.; and New York a reduction has been made on certain banks to 2 per cent. In both cities, it is generally true that the better the bank the lower is the rate of interest paid—that is, if any is allowed. It is also the case that rates of discount are easing off very materially. The Boston *Journal of Commerce* says:

"The lower and lower vet is the market, and we hear of paper discounted this week at 3½ per cent. per annum, a point rarely reached. This, of course, is exceptional, but at 4 per cent. there is a superabundant supply of capital for all business needs. Good business is attracted at 4½@5 per cent., and from thence up 7 per cent., which seems to be the highest limit for anything bankable; many cases of a letter rate is only paid where favors are expected, when the times are out of joint, and more in active demand.

—The operation of withdrawing the small notes of the Bank of France continues steadily, and the report of its operations, a summary of which is given in the Paris correspondence of the London *Economist*, contains the following statistics:

Reckoning five francs as one dollar, the total notes outstanding on January 27, 1876, was 9,950,650, against $528,200,000 on January 28, 1875. This is a decrease of $28,600,000. The number of notes for ten dollars, or fifty francs, was 6,440 in 1876, against 5,410,460 in 1875, being a decrease of 2,884,660 in the number, and $25,340,000 in the amount of those notes. The notes for four dollars, or twenty francs, were 4,033,128 in number, against 4,889,188 in 1875, being a decrease of 10,934,033 in number and $43,736,132 in the amount. The number notes of a smaller denomination than one hundred francs or twenty dollars, are entirely insignificant. The total value of them being less than $2,300,000. From December 26, 1874, to December 24, 1875, the specie reserve increased from $266,200,000 to $353,100,000. It is now about $360,000,000. During the year 1875 the bank put coin for an amount of $150,000,000, of which $126,000,000 was in gold and $99,570,000 in silver.

—The "Wall Street Gossip" of yesterday's New York *Herald* contains the following interesting items of financial information:

That there are anticipations of trouble in a large uptown house, the paper of which is now available at 7 per cent., although a few days ago it was at 4½@5 per cent.

That a certain manufacturing institution in Massachusetts has been declining drafts on a New York financial agent against supposed merchandise for large amounts, but that in reply a director has discovered that the goods have not been running for two years and that it is only old paper traveling "around the circle."

That Commodore Vanderbilt is likely to remain one of the heaviest holders of Lake Shore, which advanced to 61, the general market being active and higher, the St. Paul stocks likewise recovering from the early decline, and noon there was a general decline in these and the improvement was all lost. The Pacific was exceptionally strong, the preferred closing at 67¾, the common at 41¾, with 4,000 shares of which 3,000 were Pacific Mail, Western Union, 4,000 Wabash preferred, 37,000 Erie, 30,000 Lake Shore, 4,000 Central Pacific and 6,000 Michigan Central. The following were the closing quotations:

Telegraph..	62¾	Toledo & Wabash..	37½
Pacific Mail..	21	Do. preferred....	56½
Adams Express..	107½	Ft. Wayne....	96½
Wells-Fargo Ex..	86½	Terre Haute.....	5
American Exp'ss..	62	Do. preferred....	17
U. S. Express.....	39	Chicago & Alton..	104
New York Central	113¾	Do. preferred....	119½
Erie.....	19¾	Ohio & Mississippi.	19½
Do. preferred....	36	Indiana Central...	45½
Michigan S. & N. Ind.	118	Illinois & Central	118
Do. preferred....	124	Hannibal & St. Joe	17½
Cleveland & Pitts.	93¾	Do. preferred....	31½
Cleveland & Toledo	61¾	Atlantic & P. Tel.	18½
Columbus, Chic. & Ind. Central	106	Central Pac. bonds	107¾
Del., Lack. & West.	119½	Union Pacific stock	62
Hudson River.....	61¾	Union Pac. bonds..	105½
Michigan Central..	106	Do. land grants..	93
Michigan Southern.	93	Do. income stock	62
Panama.....	130	Mariposa.....	13
Rock Island.....	110¾	Do. preferred....	34
St. Paul common..	41¾	Quicksilver.....	13½
Do. preferred....	67¾	Do. preferred....	33
Western Union....	97¾	Canton Co.....	104

The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at 10 o'clock:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central....	....	....	50½
Philadelphia & Erie....	....	....	20¾
United Co's of N J.....	137	138	....
Catawissa.....	14¾	14¾	....
Lehigh Valley.....	....	62	....
Allegheny Valley.....	100¾	....	....
General Transportation	48¾	....	....
Leh. & S. L. m. b.....	....	....	84
Northern Pacific bonds	17¾	18	....

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 113¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, March 29.—Money 3@4 per cent. The mercantile paper 5@6 per cent. Customs receipts $340,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $62,000. Clearings $20,000,000. Sterling nominally 487@489.

GOLD.

Gold advanced from 113¾ to 114¾, and closed 113¾.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds a fraction lower in sympathy with gold. Railroad bonds dull and generally firm. State securities quiet. Stocks closed steady, except for St. Paul shares, which were exceptionally weak and declined nearly a point from yesterday's prices. Lake Shore rather strong. After first call a buying movement set in and under the leadership of Lake Shore, which advanced to 61, the general market became active and higher, the St. Paul stocks rallying recovering from the early decline, and noon there was a general decline in these and the improvement was all lost. The Pacific was exceptionally strong, the preferred closed dull but firm. Transactions in shares, of which 5,000 were Pacific Mail, 4,000 Western Union, 4,000 Wabash preferred, 37,000 Erie, 30,000 Lake Shore, 4,000 Central Pacific and 6,000 Michigan Central. The following were the closing quotations:

Telegraph..	62¾	Toledo & Wabash..	37½
Pacific Mail..	21	Do. preferred....	56½
Adams Express..	107½	Ft. Wayne.....	96½
Wells-Fargo Ex..	86½	Terre Haute.....	5
American Exp'ss..	62	Do. preferred....	17
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Erie.....	19¾	Ohio & Mississippi.	19½
Do. preferred....	36	Indiana Central...	45½
Michigan S. & N. Ind.	118	Illinois & Central	118
Do. preferred....	124	Hannibal & St. Joe	17½
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Michigan Southern.	93	Do. income stock	62
Panama.....	130	Mariposa.....	13
Rock Island.....	110¾	Do. preferred....	34
St. Paul common..	41¾	Quicksilver.....	13½
Do. preferred....	67¾	Do. preferred....	33
Western Union....	97¾	Canton Co.....	104

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old.....	40	Virginia, new.....	35
Tennessee, new....	40	Missouri 6's.....	104
Virginia, old.....	35		

LONDON, March 29, 5 P. M.—The Stock Exchange opened with a better feeling, though business is restricted by settlement. Consols for money, 94 3-16; for account 94 5-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 105¾; do 1867, 108¾; 10-40's, 103½; new 5's, 106¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 104; Erie 17¾; preferred 29.

PARIS, March 29.—Rentes 86 francs 65 centimes.

FRANKFORT, March 29.—United States bonds—New 5's 103¾.

NEW ORLEANS, March 29.—Gold 114¾. Sight ¼ per cent. premium. Sterling—Bank 535@536.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, March 29, 1876.

Notwithstanding the cold and blusterous condition of the weather to-day, some activity was displayed, in one or two branches of trade. Business could not, however, be termed active, and the volume of transactions was considerably below the average. No permanent or thorough improvement in trade can be expected while the unsettled weather continues, as the backwardness of the season and the condition of the roads in country districts combine against the progress of the spring trade. Next month when spring weather has set in, and the marketing of produce and purchase of supplies, is possible to farming communities, more active business may be expected, although it is not best to be too sanguine as to the volume of business this spring.

The active lines of trade to-day were groceries and provisions, in both of which departments an good trade was reported by leading houses. Values in provisions continued strong 10@c ₩ pound; short rib sides 13¼@13¾c; clear sides 14c.

CUT AND CURED MEATS—Hams were steady and in fair demand at 14¼c ₩ lb for extra sugar cured, Breast bacon is unchanged, dealers quote sugar cured at 15c. Sugar cured shoulders were firm being quotable at 10¾@11c. Dried beef, smoked, 14c; pickled, 13c. Best tongues, ₩ dozen, are quoted at $6 50.

LARD—The market is strong with a marked upward tendency. We quote prime cut leaf in tierces at 14¾@14¾ ₩ lb; in half-barrels 14¾ @15c; in buckets 15@15¼c ₩ lb; refined lard in tierces 14¾@15c ₩ lb; in half-barrels 15¼ @15¾c ₩ lb; in buckets 15¾@16c ₩ lb. We note a revision of the prices of lard in tierces, the rates which we give as follows: in 5-lb caddies 17¾c ₩ lb; in 3-lb caddies 17¾c ₩ lb; in 5-lb pails 17¾c ₩ lb; in 6-lb pails 17¾c ₩ lb.

TALLOW—There is a steady demand at firm prices. We quote extra winter-strained at $1 10 ₩ gallon; No. 1 at 95c ₩ gallon; No. 2 at 75c; country do, 5@6c ₩ lb; cake, 6½@6¾c.

HAM SAUSAGE—Continues steady at 9¾@10c ₩ lb.

MESS PORK—The market is strong, the ruling prices being $24 00@24 50 ₩ barrel for prime mess.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers, city rendered, 6¾@6¾c ₩ lb; country do, 6@6¼c.

COUNTRY BACON—There is a moderate demand for country-cured bacon, at steady values. We quote canvassed hams at 11¾@12c ₩ lb; shoulders 9@9¼c; sides 12@13c; lard 11@11¾c.

The Cincinnati *Price-Current* has a report of hog packing, a brief abstract of which was given in our telegraphic columns yesterday morning, continues the following as the total packing to those previously given. "The following shows the total numbers of hogs packed in the West for various seasons, as far as known, embracing both summer and winter season, for two years:

	1875-6.	1874-5.
March 1 to November 1.....	1,262,343	1,230,444
November 1 to March 1.....	4,880,135	5,599,229
Total.....	6,142,478	6,829,670
Decrease in number, 1875-6....		687,192

The aggregate net weight of hogs for both summer and winter seasons compare for two years as follows:

	1875-6	1874-5
Summer season, lbs. net..	225,445,270	215,578,410
Winter season, lbs. net..	2,063,436,021	1,251,250,457
Total.....	1,288,301,741	1,334,512,67
Decrease in 1875-6, lbs....		78,210,678

Average net weight, 209.91 pounds in 1875-6, March 209.65 pounds in 1874-5.

"The total and aggregate number of hogs packed at the six leading cities named, and the total number at fifteen cities in all packed, for seasons, compare as follows:

	1875-6.	1874-5.
Chicago.....	1,592,965	1,690,318
Cincinnati.....	563,350	599,104
St. Louis.....	328,000	441,000
Indianapolis.....	323,182	278,859
Louisville.....	223,147	273,118
Milwaukee.....	181,000	229,000
At six cities.....	3,213,622	3,500,811
At interior points.....	1,666,513	2,685,415
At all points.....	4,880,135	5,566,226

"The percentage relation to all points in the West for the six cities named, compares as follows: 1875-6, 65.86 per cent.; 1874-5, 62.84 per cent.; 1873-4, 61.87 per cent.; 1872-3, 62.68 per cent."

Groceries

Some of the leading houses reported a fairly active business to-day while others complained of the stagnated character of the trade. The average report was one of a rather quiet but steady business all around. Coffee, sugar, rice, Wisconsin, will in a few years outstrip their more easterly neighbors in this industry. We "beat the Dutch" in cheese, for Holland, which was formerly the largest producing and exporting country in the world, now stands far behind the United States in quality and quantity. The average annual production of cheese in this country is 250 pounds, and in the dairying country there is perhaps nothing which pays the farmer better and requires less labor in dairying operations. There seems to be no danger of overstocking the markets, for Europe will take all we can make, and pay a good price for it.

A dispatch of this evening gives the following commercial statistics of the city of Indianapolis for the year 1875:

INDIANAPOLIS, March 28.—From the annual report of the Secretary of the Board of Trade, just published, the following statistical information is gathered: Receipts of corn for 1875, 10,709,709 bushels; shipments 9,426,029 bushels. Receipts of wheat 1,015,835; shipments 928,950 bushels. Flour manufactured by city mills 240,000 barrels; receipts 241,760 barrels; shipments 947,140 barrels. Total number of hogs killed from November 1st to March 1st, 323,181; increase in packing over 1874, 45,845.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce, since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls.....	2,032	Newburg.....	113
Corn, bus.....	1,250	Bacon, pcs.....	3,157
Barley, bus.....	2,250	Bacon, tcs.....	1
Rye, bus.....	1,000	Lard, pkgs.....	429
Oats, bus.....	2,193	Hay, bales.....	195

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

Articles.	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls.....	7,742	5,792	13,534
Apples, bbls.....	1,890	981	2,871
Cheese, tcs.....	278	160	438
Corn, bus.....	6,277	7,342	13,619
Wheat, bus.....	6,758	2,210	8,968
Barley, bus.....	12,113	5,013	17,126
Rye, bus.....	2,935	1,372	4,307
Oats, bus.....	16,741	8,797	25,538
Butter, lbs.....	531	585	1,116
Bacon, pcs.....	5,328	12,720	18,049
Bacon, tcs.....	70	220	1,010
Potatoes, bus.....	4,742	4,893	10,593
Hay, bales.....	1,489	1,221	2,701

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The feeling in grain circles continued very stagnant with a lighter volume of receipts than during any corresponding period, for a long time. Values were not materially altered from their standing as last reported. Wheat was steady without especial alteration. We quote Michigan white at $1 40@1 45; Pennsylvania and Ohio red winter at $1 30@1 33; amber $1 35@1 38. Northwestern red at $1 38@1 40; low grades are dull and neglected at $1 16@1 22, rejected do 90c@$1 10, as to quality; a quiet feeling prevails in spring wheat, No. 1 ruling at $1 27@1 30. Corn was still scarce and firm, but quotably unchanged. We quote shelled at 56@57c for yellow; 54@55c for high-mixed; 52@54c for low-mixed; prime Kansas do 56@57c; ear at 52@54c for yellow. Oats ruled easy at former quotations. We quote mixed Pennsylvania and Ohioat 39 @40c; white do at 41@42c; Western white 42@ 43c. Barley is very stagnant at former nominal quotations. Canada is held at $1 10@1 20 ₩ bushel; choice spring at $1 00@1 10; common to prime 85@90c. Rye is quiet and easy at 78@80c ₩ bushel. Jobbing sales were made at the usual advance.

FLOUR—There was a moderately good jobbing business in standard brands to-day, and the wholesale trade in such grades was steady. In low grade and inferior flours the depression continues. Receipts are light being 5,792 barrels for the week ending to-day. The rates current are as follows for the wholesale trade of our local millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 75 ₩ bbl; No. 1 amber do $7 25; red wheat flour $6 75@7 00; in sacks 25 cents ₩ bbl less. The following are the leading dealers for standard brands of flours are steady, as follows: Choice brands of winter wheat flour $7 00@7 25; white wheat $7 50@7 75; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 00@6 25. Minnesota $6 50@6 75; fancy St. Louis $7 25@ 8 00; choice patents $8 50@9 00; red winter wheat flour is active at $6 00@6 25; Graham flour $6 25@6 75; self-raising, $5 50@6 00; buckwheat flour $5 00@6 75 per barrel or 2 ₩ bushel; oatmeal $6 25 ₩ bbl; kegs $3 25. Rye flour $5 00@5 25 ₩ bbl. Buckwheat flour 2½@2½c ₩ lb for wholesale and jobbing business.

HAY—The supply continues light, receipts for the week being only 1,221 bales. The market is firm but no futher advance can be quoted. We quote upland prairie at $13 00@ 16 00 ₩ ton; No. 1 timothy $19 00@20 00; No. 2 $17 00@18 00.

MILL FEED—The supply is firm and the market is steady. We quote bran firm at $16 00@ 17 00 ₩ ton; seconds and shipstuffs $18 00@19 00; middlings and chopped feed $21 00@23 00.

Country Produce.

APPLES—A strong feeling continues under the influence of a fairly active demand which is fully up to, if not somewhat in excess of the supply. Receipts for the week are 981 barrels. Values are strong at $5 00@5 25 per barrel for choice; prime $4 25@4 75 ₩ barrel, and lots range from $3 00@4 00 ₩ barrel.

APPLE BUTTER—The market is weak and lower. We quote business in a jobbing way at 60@65c ₩ gallon.

BEANS—The demand was sluggish and prices were weak and a shade lower. We quote prime white navy from first hands $1 10@ 1 15 ₩ bushel; a jobbing way at $1 20@1 25.

BEESWAX—The inquiry was only moderate. We quote at 30@33c ₩ pound.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—The market was dull and depressed. Sales were made in a jobbing way at $4 50 ₩ barrel, quotations were given on round lots at $4 25@4 35 ₩ cwt.

BUTTER—The market was a little steadier today under the influence of the cold weather, but receipts were liberal, and the supply was ample. The inquiry for prime to choice grades was good and values maintained their last quotations. We quote the best qualities of gilt-edged family at 38@40c ₩ lb; prime to choice 32@36c; common to fair rules at 25@30c. The New York market is reported in a healthy and firm condition, with a good demand and high prices asked for prime grades of Western.

CIDER—There is a rather quiet market. We quote at $5 00@6 00 ₩ barrel.

CRANBERRIES—There is a steady market with a light supply. Prices are firm at $15 00@ 16 00 per barrel, as to quality and condition; $5 00 ₩ crate.

CHEESE—The feeling in the cheese trade is quiet and there is little doing beyond a light jobbing trade for consumptive requirements. Values continue unchanged, receipts are light, and the stock in first hands is not very large, but there is not much fear but what the demand will be easily supplied until the coming of the next season's make. New York advices continue to report a very dull and depressed market there. We quote jobbing prices as follows: New York Goshen 14½@15c; prime Ohio factory 12½@13c ₩ lb.

DRIED FRUIT—The demand is light and wholly of a jobbing character. We quote evaporated, in boxes: apples at 9@10c; sliced, 10@11c. Peaches—Halves 11@12c; peeled 13@ 14c. Pears 12@13c. Huckleberries 12@13c. Blackberries 12@13c. Raspberries 20@22c. Cherries, pitted, 25@28c; unpitted 8@9c per lb.

EGGS—The supply continues ample and the market is steady. Values are easy but quotably unchanged. We quote at 14@15c per dozen for strictly fresh.

HOPS—We quote prime 1874's at 18@20c ₩ lb; medium 15@16c; low grades nominal.

HOMINY—The supply is liberal with a fair demand. We quote at $3 90@4 00 ₩ barrel in a jobbing way; $3 75@3 80 in round lots.

HONEY—New domestic honey is steady at 25 @26c ₩ lb. California is quoted at 30c ₩ lb.

MAPLE SYRUP—Receipts are fair and the market is steady; quoted at $1 10@1 15 per gallon jug. Maple sugar ruled at 10½@11c per pound.

NUTS—Peanuts are in fair jobbing request; prime white Tennessee nuts rule at 6@6½c according to quality; Virginia 7½@8c; shellbarks are easy at $1 25@1 50 ₩ bushel; walnuts depressed at 30@40c ₩ bushel; hazelnuts $3 50@ 4 00 ₩ bushel. Pecans are in limited demand and in light stock at 10@12c.

ONIONS—There is a slow but steady demand with values wholly unchanged. We quote at $1 75@2 00 ₩ barrel.

POULTRY—The market is firm. We quote dressed chickens at 13@16c ₩ lb; turkeys 16@ 18c; geese nominally 8@10c; live chickens by the coop 70@80c per pair; on the wharf 70c per pair.

POTATOES—There were some arrivals in carlots to-day, but the weather was against transactions and quotations in that line are nominal. Receipts for the past week have been fairly steady. 4,893 bushels were sold and in store. Prices were rather slow at sales from store. We quote round lots at 75@85c for peachblows; 80@85c for Peerless and Early Rose. Sales were made from store at 90@95c ₩ bushel for prime peach. Sweet potatoes were jobbing in a small way at $3 50 ₩ bushel.

SEEDS—The feeling was firm with a light supply. We quote clover seed at $10 25 @10 50 in a jobbing way; $10 00@10 25 in round lots; timothy seed is easy at $2 65@2 75 ₩ bushel; flaxseed $1 45 in round lots; $1 50@ 1 60 in a small way; onion sets were dull and in slight demand at $2 25@2 50 ₩ bushel.

VINEGAR—Market well supplied. We quote country cider 15@20c ₩ gallon; best city make, No. 2, at 15c ₩ gallon.

Provisions.

The provision trade continues fairly active, there being a liberal demand reported from the leading houses. Values continue firm, in sympathy with the tone of the leading markets, but no further advance can be noted. Receipts are liberal, being 12,729 pieces and 398 tierces for the week ending to-day.

BACON—There was a steady feeling at quotations which we are as follows: Shoulders 9½@9¾c ₩ pound; short rib sides 13¼@13¾c; clear sides 14c.

CUT AND CURED MEATS—Hams were steady and in fair demand at 14¼c ₩ lb for extra sugar cured. Breast bacon is unchanged, dealers quote sugar cured at 15c. Sugar cured shoulders were firm being quotable at 10¾@11c. Dried beef, smoked, 14c; pickled, 13c. Best tongues, ₩ dozen, are quoted at $6 50.

LARD—The market is strong with a marked upward tendency. We quote prime cut leaf in tierces at 14¾@14¾ ₩ lb; in half-barrels 14¾ @15c; in buckets 15@15¼c ₩ lb; refined lard in tierces 14¾@15c ₩ lb; in half-barrels 15¼ @15¾c ₩ lb; in buckets 15¾@16c ₩ lb. We note a revision of the prices of lard in tierces, the rates which we give as follows: in 5-lb caddies 17¾c ₩ lb; in 3-lb caddies 17¾c ₩ lb; in 5-lb pails 17¾c ₩ lb; in 6-lb pails 17¾c ₩ lb.

TALLOW—There is a steady demand at firm prices. We quote extra winter-strained at $1 10 ₩ gallon; No. 1 at 95c ₩ gallon; No. 2 at 75c; chandlers' do, 5@6c ₩ lb; cake, 6½@6¾c.

HAM SAUSAGE—Continues steady at 9¾@10c ₩ lb.

MESS PORK—The market is strong, the ruling prices being $24 00@24 50 ₩ barrel for prime mess.

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HAY—The supply continues light, receipts for the week being only 1,221 bales. The market is firm but no futher advance can be quoted. We quote upland prairie at $13 00@ 16 00 ₩ ton; No. 1 timothy $19 00@20 00; No. 2 $17 00@18 00.

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Country Produce.

APPLES—A strong feeling continues under the influence of a fairly active demand which is fully up to, if not somewhat in excess of the supply. Receipts for the week are 981 barrels. Values are strong at $5 00@5 25 per barrel for choice; prime $4 25@4 75 ₩ barrel, and lots range from $3 00@4 00 ₩ barrel.

APPLE BUTTER—The market is weak and lower. We quote business in a jobbing way at 60@65c ₩ gallon.

BEANS—The demand was sluggish and prices were weak and a shade lower. We quote prime white navy from first hands $1 10@ 1 15 ₩ bushel; a jobbing way at $1 20@1 25.

BEESWAX—The inquiry was only moderate. We quote at 30@33c ₩ pound.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—The market was dull and depressed. Sales were made in a jobbing way at $4 50 ₩ barrel, quotations were given on round lots at $4 25@4 35 ₩ cwt.

BUTTER—The market was a little steadier today under the influence of the cold weather, but receipts were liberal, and the supply was ample. The inquiry for prime to choice grades was good and values maintained their last quotations. We quote the best qualities of gilt-edged family at 38@40c ₩ lb; prime to choice 32@36c; common to fair rules at 25@30c. The New York market is reported in a healthy and firm condition, with a good demand and high prices asked for prime grades of Western.

CIDER—There is a rather quiet market. We quote at $5 00@6 00 ₩ barrel.

CRANBERRIES—There is a steady market with a light supply. Prices are firm at $15 00@ 16 00 per barrel, as to quality and condition; $5 00 ₩ crate.

CHEESE—The feeling in the cheese trade is quiet and there is little doing beyond a light jobbing trade for consumptive requirements. Values continue unchanged, receipts are light, and the stock in first hands is not very large, but there is not much fear but what the demand will be easily supplied until the coming of the next season's make. New York advices continue to report a very dull and depressed market there. We quote jobbing prices as follows: New York Goshen 14½@15c; prime Ohio factory 12½@13c ₩ lb.

DRIED FRUIT—The demand is light and wholly of a jobbing character. We quote evaporated, in boxes: apples at 9@10c; sliced, 10@11c. Peaches—Halves 11@12c; peeled 13@ 14c. Pears 12@13c. Huckleberries 12@13c. Blackberries 12@13c. Raspberries 20@22c. Cherries, pitted, 25 @28c; unpitted 8@9c per lb.

EGGS—The supply continues ample and the market is steady. Values are easy but quotably unchanged. We quote at 14@15c per dozen for strictly fresh.

HOPS—We quote prime 1874's at 18@20c ₩ lb; medium 15@16c; low grades nominal.

HOMINY—The supply is liberal with a fair demand. We quote at $3 90@4 00 ₩ barrel in a jobbing way; $3 75@3 80 in round lots.

HONEY—New domestic honey is steady at 25 @26c ₩ lb. California is quoted at 30c ₩ lb.

MAPLE SYRUP—Receipts are fair and the market is steady; quoted at $1 10@1 15 per gallon jug. Maple sugar ruled at 10½@11c per pound.

NUTS—Peanuts are in

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., March 29, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	Dir.	Force.	Weath.
WIND.						
7 A. M..	29 50	24	75	W.	Fresh.	L.snow
2 P. M..	29 54	29	80	N.W.	Brisk.	L.snow
9 P. M..	29.59	33	61	W.	Fresh.	Cloudy

Mean barometer.. 29.55 Highest thermom....41
Mean thermom... 29.7 Lowest thermom....23
Rainfall.....08

Removal.

Our Office and Sales Rooms will be removed from 140 Wood street, on or about April 1st, to No. 37 Wylie avenue.
WHEELER & WILSON MFG. CO.

Freight Discrimination.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Committee on Railroads has been called for this morning, at ten o'clock. We have been requested to ask our merchants and manufacturers to furnish the committee with any data they may have, or a statement of any fact bearing on freight discriminations, or to make any suggestions that may lead to a development of the same.

Fire Association of Philadelphia.

This Company is one of the oldest and wealthiest fire insurance corporations in Philadelphia, having been organized in 1820, and showing cash assets on first of last January of over three and a half millions dollars. The Pittsburgh agents are Swearingen & McCandless, 74 Fourth avenue, who also manage the department of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and all losses accurring in their districts are adjusted and paid by them.

Election of Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

The annual election for ten directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company was held on Tuesday, at the office of the company in Philadelphia. The polls were open from 10 A. M. to 6 P. M., and then the vote was counted. It was a good vote, consistering that there was little or no opposition, and the gentlemen elected are as follows:

Thomas A. Scott,	Samuel M. Felton,
Josiah Bacon,	Alexander Biddle,
Wistar Morris,	N. Parker Shortridge,
John M. Kennedy,	Henry M. Phillips,
Alex. J. Derbyshire,	John Scott, Pittsburgh.

Stocks at Auction.

Friday evening, 31st inst., at 7½ o'clock, at Thos. F. Stewart's sales room, corner Fifth avenue and Wood street.

85 shares Exchange National Bank.
20 shares M. and M. National Bank.
30 shares Citizens' National Bank.
20 shares Marine National Bank.
30 shares M. and M. Insurance Company.
25 shares Allegheny National Bank.
13 shares First National Bank.
32 shares Pittsburgh Gas Company.
30 shares Shoe and Leather Bank.
20 shares Iron City Insurance Company.
15 shares Smithfield National Bank.
THOMAS F. STEWART, Auctioneer.

Suing a Constable and his Sureties.

In the Court of Common Pleas No. 2, yesterday, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at the surgestion of George McGonigle for use of Charles Taylor, entered suit against John D. Hoerr, constable in the Seventeenth ward, and Joseph Mitchell and Louis Hoerr, bondsmen of John D. Hoerr, to the amount of the latter's bond. The allegations are that John D. Hoerr has not well and truly executed the duties of his office in this: That in the September term of court it was adjudged that Hoerr and one Joseph K. Blake had, on or about the 27th of July, 1875, committed a trespass against George McGonigle in the matter of a distress for rent and an illegal sale of said McGonigle's goods, and that it was adjudged by the court that the defendants should pay $150 to McGonigle, and the costs of the suit. The right to this judgment was afterward assigned by McGonigle to Charles Taylor, who avers that the defendants have refused to pay the same, and therefore the action has accrued to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to demand of the defendants to the present suit in the amount of $2,00, the amount of Hoerr's official bond.

Union Missionary Meeting.

Mrs. Mary Pruyn, who has been for the last five years a missionary in Japan under the auspices of the Woman's Union Missionary Society of America, has visited Pittsburgh by invitation of the branch societies of this city, and will address a meeting of ladies at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Ninth street, this afternoon, at 3¼ o'clock, and at the Second Presbyterian Church, Penn avenue, on Friday at 10½ a. m. All ladies interested in the subject of missions are invited. We find in the Louisville papers full reports of the interesting address of Mrs. Pruyn in that city, but will not attempt to forestall the pleasure of those who may hear her by copying them. Nothing in the wonderfully progressive movements of the Japanese can be more gratifying than their measures for the education and elevation of woman which have received the sympathy and aid of the work of Mrs. Pruyn, who established the first school at Yokohama. The *Ledger* describes Mrs. Pruyn as possessing a modest, unassuming demeanor, possessing a strongly marked yet winning and incisive utterance, a powerful illustration of the woman's ability to do, to dare, and to accomplish, in the work of educational, moral and spiritual development and reform, without those advantageous adds from men or government usually thought necessary to consult or rely on for success."

Railroad Uniforms.

The conductors, train agents and brakemen on the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad —and probably the Philadelphia and Erie— are to be supplied with neat and elegant uniforms next month. They are described as follows: Those of the conductors will be dout-breasted frock coats or navy blue cloth, with twelve silver plated buttons and a monogram on the lappel, with the number above it, and to be kept buttoned at all times while on duty. The pants are to be of the same material, likewise the cap, which will have three silver cords around it, and the number of the conductor embroidered in front with silver braid. Watches are to be worn in an outside pocket.

The brakemen will be clothed in similar suits, except that they will be double-breasted sack coats, and the buttons plain, and the cap will have three cords around them.

Those of the train agents will be similar to the brakemen, excepting that they will have no pockets. Satchels will be worn by them, in which they will deposit tickets and money.

A crew of men accoutered in these uniforms were recently presented before General Manager Frank Thomson, and he was so well pleased with the appearance they presented that he immediately ordered the suits to be issued. The cost of each suit will be fifty dollars, and the first will be furnished at the expense of the company.

In Memoriam.

"Death loves a shining mark." While his presence is felt among all ages and in all conditions of life, how often do we find him striking down the one we had most loved and expected him to spare. This fact has once more been forcibly and painfully exemplified in our midst by the death, on Tuesday last, of John F. Tobin, young in years, and lately in the enjoyment of a degree of health and strength sufficient in the course of nature to have lasted him to the limit of man's allotted age. But the fell destroyer came and cut him down in the early morning of his manhood, and ended a life which gave abundant promise of future usefulness. He is gone! and the friends he leaves behind can only shed the unavailing tear and with his newly made grave and weave the chaplet of flowers to his memory. Frank, manly, brave, honest, true and generous even to a fault, his was a character to command the respect, the confidence and the friendship of all to whom it was revealed. In all the relations of life his conduct was most exemplary. A sincere, devoted and consistent Christian gentleman, his death was rendered peaceful and happy by the unfaltering trust in a glorious immortality beyond the grave. And now that we shall no more see his smiling face, hear the sound of his cheerful voice or receive his kindly greeting, we can only bid him a last fond farewell on earth and indulge the hope and offer the prayer that he may rest in peace.

J. V. C.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

Jacob G. Reel was appointed assignee in the case of Welsh and Shannon, bankrupts.

B. D. Moore was elected assignee in the case of John Spear & Co., bankrupts.

An order was made for the sale of certain outstanding book accounts belonging to the firm of Hilands & King, bankrupts.

In the case of Rogers & Barefield, bankrupts, the assignee was authorized to accept the compromise offered by D. C. Wilson, C. Walsh & Sons, respectively, in full payment of their claims.

The Court issued an order for the condemnation and forfeiture to the United States of 533 barrels of spirits at the distillery of Samuel Thompson, at Brownsville, valued at $25,000. This forfeiture is only upon one information as all the property of Thompson shall fall into the government's hands. His property and bonds to be forfeited altogether to the government about $125,000.

The court also ordered the condemnation and forfeiture of the distillery of Amos Appleman, located in Columbia county, and valued at $6,000.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

In the case of the Nation Trust Company, for use of John Dalley, receiver, vs. R. A. Smith—action to recover a balance alleged to be due to the company, amounting to $5,804 83, the jury found in favor of the defendant, and certified a balance in favor of $1,540 32.

In the case of A. Ortlieb vs. Fannie Rosenbach, an order for a new trial was granted.

Joseph Bole vs. Alonzo Bradner and John Hartman; feigned issue—to determine the ownership of certain property. On trial before Judge Sterrett.

R. Patterson and J. T. Stockdale, assignees of Wm. Anshutz, Robert Campbell, A. T. Baum and Robert Stoney, partners as Anshutz & Co., vs. Isaac Dreyfus; a *sci fa* on a mechanics lien. Verdict for plaintiff for $620 36.

John S. Lambie, committee of John Watson, a lunatic, vs. Patrick McGready, action for rent. Verdict for plaintiff for $213 12.

The argument list will be taken up on Monday next.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Ewing and White.

The argument list is still under consideration.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Kirkpatrick.

A verdict of not guilty was returned in the case of Thomas McGinnis, charged with horse stealing, harboring and receiving stolen goods on oath of James McVay.

A nolle pros. was allowed in the case of John Campbell, charged with larceny by bailee on oath of John Dunn, defendant paying costs.

The next case called was that of Richard Crane, charged with rape, on oath of Ella Taylor. This is the Poor Farm case, that has created so much excitement in a small way. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

James McNally, George Hagan, Thomas Gallagher, James Lege, Fred Tregersmith, John Young (2), Rina Van Kegan, Henrietta Rudge, *et al.*, Juliana Bell, George Gantz, Robert Donaldson, John F. Chestner, F. J. Lee, Ruth Smith, Samuel Hare, Joseph Stanley, John Hoge, Jack Garvey, James Fletcher, John Campbell, John Kelly *et al.*, Edward Schendle (2), Valentine Best, John Griffin.

The Finest Cigars
the market at 6 for 25 cents. "The Aroma"
S. C. M.

THE INVESTIGATION

GETTING DOWN TO FIGURES.

Is the City Debt Limit Reached?

Messrs. Robb and Mellon Assert That It Is.

A STATEMENT IN WRITING.

WILLIAM SMITH'S DEFENSE, ETC.

The Legislative Committee reassembled at the usual hour yesterday morning, Chairman Carson presiding.

Messrs. Robb and Mellon for the taxpayers, Mr. C. B. M. Smith for Wm. Smith, and D. D. Bruce for Mr. Lowry, were present.

ABOUT MR. DUFF'S SICKNESS.

Dr. W. R. Hamilton was called and sworn—Don't think I know Mr. Duff, of the Water Committee; don't know whether he is now sick or not.

To Mr. Carson—Did attend a Mr. Duff about two years since; think he lived on Thirty-seventh street, South side; he was a member of the firm of Duff & Wettach, lithographers; many parties frequently call at my office and receive prescriptions whose names I do not inquire; I do not remember of ever having attended Mr. J. Duff who had feigned illness; there is another Dr. Hamilton in Allegheny.

Mr. Robb—I understand that Mr. Duff formerly resided in Allegheny. Probably it would be well to have Dr. John Hamilton supponed.

Mr. Carson—We will summon the gentleman.

CAN THE CITY FURTHER INCREASE ITS INDEBTEDNESS?

Mr. C. W. Robb then read the following paper:

We respectfully submit, that the city of Pittsburgh has reached and exceeded her constitutional borrowing powers, for the following reasons:

The Constitution, article 9, section 8, provides that "the debt of a city shall never exceed seven per centum of the assessed value of the taxable property therein; nor shall the debt be increased or a new debt incurred to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such valuation of property without the assent of the electors at an election, &c.; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum in the aggregate upon such valuation."

The Constitution went into effect on the 1st day of January, 1874, and the first question is, what was the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the city at that date? To ascertain this we must refer to the assessment laws now in force. The act of 28th March, 1872, section 2, P. L. 606, provides "that the said Councils of the city of Pittsburgh shall take for city purposes the aggregate valuation of taxable property within said city as assessed for county purposes beyond the aggregate amount assessed for county purposes within the city."

What then was the aggregate amount of property assessed for county purposes within the city on the first day of January 1874? The legal stamp of value upon it at that date must prevail. It may be adjusted as between the different properties afterward by the process of equalization but not exceeded.

To ascertain this we must go to the county valuation. The act of April 15th, 1834, (Purd. Dig., 777, sec. 2), provides as follows:

"The County Commissioners, within six weeks after the general election and every third year thereafter, shall issue their precepts to the assessors of the respective townships, wards and districts, requiring them to make out and return within thirty days thereafter a just and perfect list of taxables and taxable property, with a just valuation thereof."

This triennial assessment was made in the fall of 1873. The presumption is that it was done legally, and was therefore made before the first of January, 1874. If all the duplicates were not fully written up or every detail finished within the prescribed time it would make no difference, as whatever the triennial assessment of 1873 was must constitute the standard of valuation for taxable purposes in the city for the fiscal year commencing on the 1st of January, 1874, ending December 31st. The taxables be adjusted by equalization for city purposes, but this does not alter the case for the purpose of argument. The equalization act is not compulsory, and if Councils did not resort to it the levy under the county valuation would be legal.

Now, as appears from the County Controller's offical report, the valuations of the taxable property within the thirty-seven wards of the city for the year commencing January 1st, 1874, and ending December 31st of that year, was as follows, viz., (county valuation):

Real estate	$ 157,251,169
Personal	2,180,071
Occupation	17,335,372
Total	$ 176,787,603

The Thirty-seventh ward has since been stricken out as not legally part of the city's territory at any time. This would reduce the assessment, *pro tanto* according to assessment.....

2,634,366

It seems also certain railroad property was illegally included according to the Constitution.....

75,000

And occupations ought not, perhaps, be included with taxable property under the terms of the Constitution.....

17,335,372

Total deductions.....$

20,094,738

Leaving net valuation within the city under the county assessment on the list day of January, 1874.....

156,722,865

Seven per cent. on this valuation is.....$ 10,970,600 55

Now, as appears by the Controller's report for the year 1874, the city debt on the 1st of January, 1874, the date when the Constitution went into effect, was $9,446,788 15.

This includes the Penn avenue bonds then issued, although the Controller holds they are not properly a city debt.

We do not think it necessary to argue the question. They were issued to pay off city bonds, and the holders have nothing to do with the securities or subjects of taxation provided for by the Constitution other than the holders of other city bonds have to do with the assessment of revenue and taxes which the city expects to meet them, but if they were thrown out it will not help the case for our opponents.

Deduct the sinking fund, as reported before the 1st day of January, 1874, from the amount of the debt as reported on the assessed valuation at the same date, viz.:

Seven per cent.	$10,970,600 55
Debt	9,446,788 15
	$1,523,812 40

And we find we are under the seven per cent. limit, and as this margin is less than two per cent. on the valuation, we might have borrowed up to it without holding an election. But as appears by the testimony before Councils, they have gone on to increase the debt, until to-day, according to the Controller's testimony, it is $10,590,557 90, and without authority of law money was given. Councils have increased it $1,619,769, making it $1,523,757 90, and this, without the consent of the electors, as provided for in the Constitution.

In any aspect of the case, how this increase without either election or legislation, can be legal, challenges explanation. They might have increased it $1,523,812 40 to the seven per cent. limit, or if the Controller was mistaken, and the city has the margin represented in his report, they might have increased it still up to the extent of the margin allowed thereby in such margin did exceed two per cent. on the valuation, but certainly not beyond that.

Let us now see how it would come if the case fell within the proviso of the Constitution for cities whose debt had reached seven per cents. on the valuation at the date of the Constitution.

We have a debt at that date of $9,446,788 15. At the same time a net valuation of property for taxable purposes, $156,722,865; three per cent. on this is $4,701,685 96; this added to the debt at the date of the Constitution gives $14,148,474 10 as the limit under the three per cent. proviso, and it appears by Mr. Controller's testimony the present city debt is $14,067,557 98, and affords a margin of $80,916 12 yet to be issued under proper legislation.

This calculation is based on the valuation of property at the date of the Constitution, but as will be seen by reference to the debates of the Constitutional Convention it is on the valuation as it exists now that the three per cent. increase should be made. The valuation as it exists now, according to the evidence, is $146,000,000. Three per cent. on this would give $4,380,000, which, added to the debt as it existed at the date of the Constitution, gives $13,826,788 15 as the then existing limit under the three per cent. clause; but the present debt being $14,067,557 98, is $240,769 83 in excess of this limit.

Thus, in any aspect of the case, the city cannot borrow more, or be authorized by legislation to borrow more, than she has already obtained.

We think her proper status is under the seven per cent. limit. Her fiscal year, it is true, does not begin on the 1st of January, but on the 1st of February, but as the county valuation is her standard of valuation, for tax purposes, and it went into effect on the 1st of January previously, and was the only valuation which could be referred to, it makes the argument all the stronger for the seven per cent. limit.

The seven per cent. limit, as we have already shown, is $10,970,600 55, but the debt was increased from $9,446,788 15 to $14,036,5579 8, or an increase of $4,620,769 83.

Now, supposing the city could have increased her debt as it existed at the date of the Constitution to the extent of two per cent. on the valuation without holding an election. Two per cent. on $156,722,865 is $3,134,457 30; deduct the like limit from the actual increase, namely, $4,840,769 83, and we have an over-issue of $1,486,312 53 without any constitutional legislation to authorize it, indeed, most of it without any legislation whatever, and certainly without the requisite assent of the electors as provided for in the Constitution.

How those in authority can reconcile this recklessness of expenditure of city debt beyond all limits provided for in the Constitution, and without holding an election to authorize any of it or procuring legislation for much of it, is for them to explain.

In regard to the cases of bonds thus illegally issued, an important question may arise as to their validity, in view of the recent United States Supreme Court decision in the case of William Ray vs. the Mayor and Councilmen of the city of Nashville (Ally. Law Journal, No. 17, page 271) which holds "that municipal obligations of any kind are void, even in the hands of *bona fide* purchasers, for value without notice, unless founded upon constitutional legislation authorizing their issue, and in view also of the principle to be found in nearly every text book on Constitutional law, that any taxpayer may object to and avoid a tax or levy which includes within it an estimate for the payment of an illegal claim.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. MELLON,
C. W. ROBB.

VIEWS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Swan—Mr. Chairman, the statements in that paper are highly important, and a copy should be furnished to the city officers. If the statements are not controverted, our duties here as a committee are ended, and we may as well return to Harrisburg.

Chairman Carson—The city officers can answer to-morrow. The communication is addressed, I see, to Councils, but we have nothing to do with it. Councils have increased it $1,619,769, making it $14,067,557 98, and this, without the consent of the electors, as provided for in the Constitution.

Mr. Swan—The matters referred to in the paper are the only questions in which we as a committee are interested. We haven't anything to do with the Smith contract.

Chairman Carson—I think we have. It is eminently getting over, however, to the city officers.

Mr. Swan—If the statements in that paper are not controverted, I consider that our duties are ended and we should go back to Harrisburg.

Chairman Carson—I don't think so. We ought to give Mr. Smith a chance to submit his evidence.

Mr. Swan—Well, I have expressed my opinion. I think the Sergeant-at-Arms be instructed to take this paper to the City Attorney. I have no objection to giving Mr. Smith ample opportunity to defend himself.

The motion was unanimously adopted by the committee.

MR. SMITH'S PIPE CONTRACT.

Attorney Smith then proceeded to call witnesses in defense of Wm. Smith & Sons, contractors for the pipe, &c.

The first witness called was W. G. Brown, who was sworn and testified as follows: Was a manager of the works for twenty-five years; was inspector of water pipe; was appointed by Mr. Moorely in September, 1873; my duty was to inspect, weigh and mark pipe; weighed, inspected and marked six inch pipe; found some deficiencies; Smith did not interfere; the pipe found deficient were broken up; examined the pipe in every respect.

Cross-examined by Mr. Robb—The pipe I examined was six inch pipe; did not inspect any large pipes at Smith's; inspected for about two months; some were defective and thrown aside; have seen large pipe broke; saw one that had been cracked while the contractor was laying it; saw one that had been cracked cut off to make a short joint; when cutting it, it was discovered that the pipe had been plugged to cover up a defect; that was the only pipe I cut; the plug came out by the jar; I would not have passed the pipe if I had inspected it.

Re-direct—If it had been drilled and plugged and stood the test I should have passed it; have done that kind of work.

C. K. Dickson sworn—Was City Pipe Inspector appointed by the Water Commission; inspected, tested and weighed pipe at Smith's; my duty was to see that the pipes were made according to specifications; Messrs. Palmer and Chambers were inspectors before me. The witness was examined at some length. He stated that pipes frequently stood a pressure in excess of the specifications. Some of the pipes did not come up to the standard, but he had used his own discretion and passed them, reporting to the engineer. He could not tell whether the pipe under the test were accepted or not. He was subjected to a somewhat protracted cross-examination by Mr. Robb, but the substance of his answers was that all the pipe inspected by him came up to the specifications. He had no knowledge of any light weight pipe.

WANTS TO SEE THE LAW FOR IT.

The next witness called was Edward Case, formerly pipe inspector under Engineers Kennedy and Moorely. He positively declined to be sworn until the question passed in the case of Mr. Henne had been decided by Court. If the Court decided that the Committee was legally constituted, he would willingly testify.

STATEMENT OF WM. H. SMITH.

William H. Smith, son of Mr. Wm. Smith, was sworn and testified as follows: Am a partner at the foundry; was there when the water pipe was made in the city; the inspection was in the hands of the Inspector; they were cleaned, examined, heated and dipped; they were tested by hydraulic pressure; then weighed; some that were rejected were broken up; those that were passed were returned over to the city; Chambers was the first inspector; he came when he felt like it, and my father objected to him; was necessary to get the pipe out of the way; do not know of pipes being accepted without care; there is not a fifty-six pound weight about our establishment; never instructed anybody to weigh improper; the composition for casing contained linseed oil and lime; it was what is known as the Smith process; the pipes ranged in pressure under test from 250 to 350 pounds to the square inch; the light pressure was owing to the limited supply of gaskets. we had to wait for a supply; some light weight pipes were rejected; probably three-fourths of all the pipe are above the ground; some pipes were rejected by the engineer after they had been passed by the inspectors.

Cross examined by Mr. Robb—Do not know what heat the pipes were when placed in the bath; the tar was boiling; the pipes were allowed to stay in the bath from fifteen to thirty minutes, according to the heat; put linseed oil and lime in the bath myself; did it twice a year; put about eight gallons of oil; we did not have more than forty-six pound weight; did not have some fifty pounds; never saw any of them placed in pipes when they were being weighed; never ordered any person to place them in the pipes; we cast about fifty large pipes a week and fifty small ones each day.

Re-direct—Never knew of fifty pipes being declivered in one day without inspection; never instructed Mr. Mackin, weighmaster in the yard, to turn in false weights.

At this point the committee took a recess until two o'clock.

Afternoon Session.

The committee reassembled at two o'clock Wm. H. Kennedy sworn—Was City Engineer and Chief Engineer of the Pittsburgh Water Works; was elected by the Commission; there was an inspector of the pipe elected; I was at the pipe foundry nearly every day and watched the manufacture of pipe at Smith's foundry; think Smith commenced work in 1873; I tested material used by Smith at the Keystone Bridge Works by the test to ascertain the tensile strength; the test showed from 17,000 to 21,000 pounds per square inch; the specifications required 15,000 pounds; don't think any of the iron went below the specifications; the tests were made on the same machine that the iron for the St. Louis bridge was tested; there was only one time that the test came near the specifications; they were usually far above the standard required; the tests were made just when the inspector required; if there had been set times the metal might have been better for them; Mr. Chambers and Mr. Dickson were inspectors, and a Mr. Palmer was an assistant; don't know where Palmer is; would like to know; inspected a number of pipe myself; when a pipe would not stand under the pressure I would throw them out. When the fire occurred at the foundry the place was choked up; the small pipes and some of them wouldn't burst, but the water would ooze out, and it condemned them. I have had as many as three gauges on the test at one time, because of the variation; our gauges frequently registered against the contractor, that is, where the gauge showed 300 it should have registered 320; have seen one-tenth of all the large pipe tested. We took great pains in having our gauges adjusted. The bath was frequently so hot that men could not enter the sheds were burnt down. The cooling speaks for itself.

I condemned any pipe when the coating peeled off; never weighed any pipe myself; depended on the inspector; each particular pipe can be designated by numbers cast on the iron; if the weight is light it can be shown by the records in the Engineer's office; the city would not lose a dollar for short weight; no one connected with the foundry ever attempted to influence me to pass unsound pipe; have had controversy with Wm. H. and Roly Smith about condemned pipe; they thought they were sound; sometimes would allow them to cut off the spongy end; Mr. Smith was never allowed for any loss in pipe; can't tell how much Mr. Smith has given to the city in the overweight of metal; the record is in the engineer's office. No person at the works could tell what pipes were accepted. There are hundreds of pipe that were lying at the works which the city never accepted; there was a discrepancy between the city books and our books amounting to over $10,000. We made out our accounts without reference to the Smith books. I had charge of the accounts of the pipe sales and my records are in the engineer's office.

BERRON'S HILL RESERVOIR.

Attorney Smith—Mr. Kennedy, I would like to ask you a question in regard to the Wray & McIlhenny contract on Herron Hill.

Chairman Carson objected to altogether foreign here.

Attorney Smith—This is a good time to rebut Mr. Morely's statement.

Mr. Robb—Mr. Morely corroborated his statement by the minutes of the Water Committee.

Mr. Kennedy resumes—Messrs. Wray & McIlhenny came across a material, in prosecuting their contract, that was not included in their contract; it was a clay stronger than the holders of other city bonds have to do with the security of revenue and taxes which the city expects to meet them, but if they were thrown out it will not help the case for our opponents.

Declined to fix the price for the excavation; told the committee it was their business; the contract clearly allowed $1 50 per yard in addition to the contract price for the removal of the material named. I looked upon the advance as an allowance not to cost the contract.

The witness was interrogated at some length, but the above are the main points of his testimony.

H. H. Smith recalled—Witness testified to having called on Mr. Kettenberg and demanded the note of Wm. Smith, found in the box, about which so much talk; told Mr. Kettenberg said he did not have the papers, but would see Mr. Bailey, who said the notes were worthless.

Wm. Paul sworn—This witness testified that Wm. Smith made a loan to the Allegheny city, which were every way satisfactory.

The testimony here closed so far as Wm Smith was concerned.

Samuel McElhaney sworn—Witness testified that Wray & McElhaney got it cent for earth, and 60 cents for loose earth. That was all they got for excavation on the reservoir grounds; he would not vitiate the specifications, they got such price as was fixed by the Water Committee. They never received a cent from any persons for putting dirt on their premises. The city was glad to find a place to dump waste earth.

The Chairman announced the committee ready to adjourn.

MR. LOWRY'S CASE.

Mr. Bruce asked that the committee subpena Mr. Beckert and Mr. Morley, for cross-examination in behalf of Mr. Lowry.

Mr. Carson said he would give Mr. Bruce a subpœna for the gentlemen, and they could be summoned forthwith.

The committee then adjourned until ten o'clock this morning.

THE DEAD FIREMAN.

Arrangements for the Funeral.

The funeral of Robert Miller, late fireman of Engine Company 3, who was killed by a falling wall at the Penn street fire on Monday morning, will take place this afternoon at two o'clock, from his late residence, No. 6 Bluff street. The arrangements for the last sad rites have been about completed. A lot has been selected in Hilldale Cemetery and it is probable that the contributions of the firemen will go to pay for it. Engine Company No. 3 and Hook and Ladder Company "A," of which he was to occupy the Seventh avenue house, and were presided over by deceased, will attend in a body. There will be representatives from all the other companies, and the total number of members turning out will be about seventy-five. Quite a number of men who are on the sub-list of the department have volunteered to help fill up during the time of the funeral, the weakened companies. The force will be headed by acting Chief Engineer Evans and the whole will be under command of Captain Samuel L. Fullwood, Superintendent of the Fire Alarm Telegraph, as drill master. The men will meet at one o'clock this afternoon at the Seventh avenue house, fully equipped and with white gloves, where the line will be arranged in order and put through preliminary drill, after which they will march to the late residence of the deceased.

The members of the Fire Commission will attend in carriages and the funeral procession will pass down Seventh avenue, where the apparatus of the house draped in mourning will be placed outside. We understand that the family of deceased have acquiesced in the firemen procuring a band, and the Eighteenth Regiment band has been engaged.

The Humane Society.

A meeting of the Humane Society was held yesterday afternoon. The report of Superintendent Street included an interesting account of the two cases brought before Mr. Hinkle dealers at East Liberty for cruel treatment in failing to give food and water and proper rest to animals in transit. Information was received yesterday that in Lawrenceville a boy had hung up a dog and then pelted him with stones. The case will be looked after.

Mr. Street called attention to the danger to horses at the Liberty street railroad crossings, and related how but a short time since a valuable mule was drowned in a rain on the South Side, by which his hoof was torn off and it was necessary to shoot him.

County Officers Elected.

The County Commissioners yesterday elected Mr. George R. Beecher, Engineer of the Courthouse, and Major Wm. Hope Janitor. There were three candidates for the position of Engineer, the two named above and Mr. Samuel S. Mason, each being supported by one of the three Commissioners. The action above given was a compromise, leaving only one of the three dissatisfied, of course. Henceforth, as we understand, the position of Janitor was left for the Engineer to fill. The gentlemen chosen are active Republicans, and will, no doubt, acceptably "fill the bill." Mr. Beecher has long been a member of the Relief Fire Company.

Changes in the Allegheny Diocese.

In accordance with previous announcement, Rev. J. Walsh, of Hollidaysburgh, has been promoted to the pastoral charge of St. Mary's Church, Altoona, in place of very Rev. Father Tuigg, consecrated Bishop of Pittsburgh, and his brother, Rev. T. Walsh, of Mansfield, has been transferred to Altoona. We also learn that Rev. J. Martin has been transferred from New Derry to Altoona, and Rev. Thomas Dougherty from Johnstown to New Derry. These changes have been made with the concurrence of Bishops Tuigg and Shanahan. It is rumored that other changes will shortly be made in both Dioceses.

Man Drowned.

About half-past eleven o'clock last night John Trimble, a private watchman on Water street, heard cries for help at the river near the foot of Short street. Proceeding thither he saw some men on the towboat Alps drawing a man out of the water. The man stated that he and a companion, named Arthur, were going aboard the boat and the latter was drowned. No further particulars could be obtained.

THE RECENT FIRE.

Official Statement of Losses and Insurance.

Fire Marshal Livingston has completed his examination into the cause of the recent fire on Penn avenue and has prepared a statement of the losses and insurance which we give below. The cause of the fire has not been definitely ascertained but is believed to have been accidental.

James Graham, dealer in hay, insured for $2,500 in the Birmingham, of Pittsburgh. Loss, $1,200.

Henry Woodside, slate dealer. Insurance $2,500 in Farmer's of York. Loss say $300.

The building was owned by G. & S. Logan and was insured for $5,000. Loss, as settled $190.

S. B. Floyd & Co., produce, commission and storage. Insured in Niagara, of New York, on contents, for $2,000. Loss not adjusted, but probably total.

Abdiel McClure & Co., broom manufacturer and paper dealers. Insurance $7,500. Loss not adjusted.

S. M. Willock, oil dealer. Insurance, $2,000; loss, $1,000.

Payne, Ablett & Tripp, dealers in lubricating oils. Insurance, $7,000; loss, $4,000.

E. J. Weldell, produce and commission merchant. Loss, $5,000; no insurance.

W. B. Lupton & Co., roofers. Insurance $2,000, loss about $300. The building was insured, but the amount has not been ascertained.

The J. H. Shoenberger buildings were insured for $20,000; loss $15,000.

The buildings at 361 Liberty street, was owned by C. Seibert, and damaged to the extent of $150. Insured. It was occupied by J. White, Jr., & Sons. Insured $7,000, loss seventy-five dollars; adjusted.

Stewart, Bros, & Co., brush manufactures. Insurance on stock $35,000; loss about $600.

John Hays, tobacconist, owned the building at 359 Liberty street, which was damaged to the amount of $150; insured.

No. 357 Liberty street, owned by the Patterson heirs, damaged to the amount of $175; insured. It was occupied by John G. Brandt, leather dealer. He was insured for $800, and his loss was adjusted at $188.

No. 355 Liberty street was owned by the Patterson heirs. Loss fifty dollars, which was covered by insurance. It was occupied by M. McCullough, Jr.; no loss on stock. No. 353 Liberty street, belonging to the Mitchell heirs was damaged fifty dollars; insured.

The total loss, so far as ascertained, will not exceed $37,000.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

APRIL 1st is settling day for everything except boarding house coffee.

THE weather is now a fickle as a black eyed girl with her hair crimped.

MAYOR MCCARTHY attended the Republican State Convention at Harrisburg yesterday.

WHY is a store that don't advertise like Enoch Arden? Because it "sees no sale from day to day."

WHY don't the Building Inspector see that the dangerous wall on the scene of the late fire is taken down?

FIRE MARSHAL LIVINGSTON has been summoned to appear before the Legislative Investigating Committee.

ELLEN DUNHAM was sent to the Workhouse yesterday for six months by Mayor Phillips on a charge of vagrancy.

A YOUNG man named Fisher, residing in the Twenty-ninth ward, has been missing since Monday last from his home.

THE latest sickly attempt at slang wit, invented to use on a man whose conversation is becoming tiresome, is, "Go get your hair cut."

IT IS reported that the rate of fare over the Pennsylvania Railroad during the centennial will be fifteen dollars the round trip from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia.

ON Monday Mrs. O'Brien, who resides at the corner of First and Carson streets, South Side, while drawing water at the hydrant slipped on the icy pavement and fell, breaking one of her arms.

THIS week you can have a chance to gloat over your hoard of old bottles, preserve cans and invalid tubs and barrels. Moving time is blessing, if for nothing else than to let a man know how rich he is.

THE Board of Control of the Duquesne Grays Regiment will meet this evening for the funeral of the late Robert Miller, foreman of the Vigilant, who was killed at the fire on Sunday night.

SIXTEEN policemen, headed by Lieut. S. S. Hagar, will escort the firemen's funeral procession Sunday, while seventy members of the Fire Department, with the Board of Commissioners, will be in line.

A MYSTERIOUS barber shop of Charles Zelg, No. 13 East street, Allegheny, during the absence of the proprietor, and was robbing the till when Mr. Zelg came in upon him and gave him a severe beating.

CLEM BLACK was arrested yesterday on Tenth street, upon a telegraphic order from Altoona, where he is wanted on a charge of breaking open the Pennsylvania Railroad car. Officer Cook took him into custody.

RECENTLY application was made at the Opera House box office for a seat in the family circle, while on previous occasions different parties wanted seats in the *ostrich* and in the *upper* circle. They were accommodated.

MR. SWAN, of the Investigating Committee, took a sensible view of the situation yesterday. If the city has no authority to increase its indebtedness, the committee will practically have little else to do except to report that fact.

MR. W. W. WILSON, clerk of the steamer Chieftain, one of the Monongahela river packets, has our thanks for many favors in the way of fresh news items. Mr. W. is an excellent hustler as well as a first-class steamboat clerk.

THE walls left standing by the recent fire on Penn avenue are in a very dangerous condition, and require prompt attention. Some of them are liable to fall at any time and kill a number of persons. The city authorities should attend to the matter.

THE last ex of Pittsburgh and Allegheny will be glad to hear that Mrs. Dr. C. Spear, of Japan, arrived safely in our city yesterday morning. She will speak of her mission on the 4th inst. Monday afternoon at half-past three in St. Andrew's church, and in Dr. Howard's church on Wednesday evening at 7½ o'clock.

WARDEN WRIGHT, of the Western Penitentiary, has discovered counterfeit five cent pieces in possession of some of the convicts, and believes that the "queer" was made with in the prison walls. Three convicts have been placed in close quarters in the hopes that they will divulge something, but up to yesterday nothing had been developed which would show that the suspicions of the Warden are well founded.

ALEXANDER ROBINSON, a prominent builder of St. Louis, and known in this city, accidentally shot himself, on Sunday last, in his own yard. He was at the time getting ready to start away on a hunting excursion. He fell while walking through the yards with a gun in his hand, the contents were discharged and lodged in his left side. He died in less than an hour. He was a native of Lancaster county, Pa.

REV. THOMAS C. GUTHRIE died at his residence at Sparta, Illinois, on Wednesday, March 22d instant, in the eighty-first year of his age. The deceased was known and greatly respected in this vicinity, having formerly been pastor of the Sixth U. P. church, Allegheny county. For a number of years he was one of the leading divines in the Cumberland Presbyterian church, but afterwards he united with the United Presbyterian Church.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Owing to the sudden and severe illness of Miss May Howard, the "Romance of a Poor Young Man" announced for to-night for "Ne Magdalen," with the stock company in the cast. It was very well performed, all things considered, and seemed to please the audience.

This evening, should Miss Howard be sufficiently recovered to appear, her thrilling new play, "Marguerite, or Stricken Blind," will be played. In case she is still ill, the "Victor of Vale" will be presented, with Mr. J. C. Scott to hold in the leading character. In either event the house should be well filled.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

There will be a complete change of programme to-night, including a new and beautiful ballet by Bettie Remmelsberg and her troupe.

To-morrow evening, for Mr. Fred. Aims' benefit, the best bill of the season will be given.

Library Hall.

Great crowds are flocking nightly to hear Carncross and